

## Extra £200m for poorest of pensioners

### Surprise announcement defuses Lawson row

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Security, delighted Conservative MPs yesterday by announcing, months earlier than they had expected, a £200 million package of help for more than 2.5 million of Britain's poorest pensioners.

Mr Moore surprised the Commons by fleshing out the details of a plan whose existence was disclosed only 17 days ago by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, in an attempt to defuse the controversy after his much-

disputed briefing to Sunday press journalists.

At that time the scheme was uncosted, and the detail unclear. But yesterday, during the continuing debate on the Queen's Speech, Mr Moore announced changes, to come into force next October, which will mean that 940,000 pensioner claimants aged over 75 on income support, and dis-

abled pensioners aged over 60 on income support, will receive additional increases of £2.50 a week for a single pensioner and £3.50 for a couple.

A further million poorer pensioners whose current income places them just above the level for income support are to benefit from a corresponding rise in the income level at which pensioners can obtain help with their housing costs through housing benefit.

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**INSIDE**

## S

### British Steel: apply here

● The Times today carries an application form for shares in British Steel, the first opportunity to apply for an issue that is certain to attract heavy demand. Pages 20, 31

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● Mr David Binnie, of Newton Abbot, Devon was the sole winner of yesterday's £4,000 daily prize. The Portfolio Accumulator stands at £12,000.

Prices: page 29

**Mandela to be moved**

South Africa is to ease restrictions on the black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, including access to his family. A statement by the Justice Minister, Mr Kobie Coetsee, yesterday also said that Mr Mandela will be moved from the clinic where he is being treated for tuberculosis.

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## Clash as 25,000 protest over loans scheme



Some of the thousands of student demonstrators involved in violent clashes near the Houses of Parliament yesterday.

## Students battle with police

By Staff Reporters

Mounted police yesterday dispersed a student demonstration after thousands of protesters broke away from a march, brought central London to a standstill for hours and confronted police as they tried to reach Parliament.

Students estimated the number of marchers at between 25,000 and 30,000. Sixty people were arrested and 16 casualties, including three

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police officers, were taken to hospital, as the National Union of Students' protest against the Government's student loan proposal was commanded by Socialist Worker activists.

At the height of the disorder cars were overturned, shop windows smashed and police riot vans doused with graffiti.

Last night as police and organizers started their inquiries into the worst scenes of student violence seen in Britain for many years, NUS leaders accepted that extremists had helped to precipitate the trouble.

But they added that it would never have reached the peak it had unless fuelled by anger at the Government's proposals.

Mr Pat Young, NUS vice-president, said: "We intended the students unions anger to be channelled into a rally and then go afterwards to lobby. On the day they decided they wanted to go direct to Westminster. When thousands of students decide that a group of 100 stewards are not going to be able to stop them."

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, whose recently announced plans for student top-up loans were at the heart of the protest, said last night: "I am saddened that students are interrupting their own education in this way. We are spending £850 million over 12 years to introduce a fairer system of student support."

Yesterday's disorder, which closed off bridges and disrupted London's traffic, centred on Westminster Bridge within a few hundred yards of the Commons after part of an NUS march turned away from a planned rally in the south side of the Thames and headed for Westminster. Demonstrations are banned from Parliament Square.

After over an hour of confrontation students were batoned to the ground and trampled under foot by 50

Continued on page 24, col 2

## Ethnic violence intensifies in Azerbaijan

### 'Revenge killings' of Armenians

From a Correspondent, Moscow

Muslim Azerbaijanis were yesterday reported to be massacring Christian Armenians in a systematic revenge killing in the city of Kirovabad.

Mr Musa Mamedov, chief of the information department of the Azerbaijan Foreign Ministry, said initial reports on the latest disorders in Kirovabad were sketchy, but he understood that several people had been killed.

An Armenian in Yerevan, the capital of Soviet Armenia, who has relatives in Kirovabad, said: "The Azerbaijanis are cutting up Armenians. It's awful." About a third of Kirovabad's 270,000 population is Armenian.

A woman said children were being collected inside churches as this northern Azerbaijani city waited for more troops to arrive. Twenty helicopters

were also expected to evacuate women and children.

Troops were sent into Kirovabad and the autonomous Azerbaijan republic of Nakhichevan earlier this week after renewed ethnic unrest in both places. Three soldiers were killed and 126 people were injured in clashes. But Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, told a news conference in Moscow yesterday that no Armenians were among the wounded.

An Armenian said the killings in Kirovabad were "worse than Sumgait", an Azerbaijani industrial town where 26 Armenians were killed last February.

While the Armenians' reports were not officially confirmed, they were a sign of the explosive situation in Azerbaijan.

Tension also ran high yesterday in other Azerbaijani cities, including Baku, the capital, where troops backed by tanks and armoured vehicles were patrolling the streets. A curfew from 10 pm to 5 am was enforced in Baku after "acts of hooliganism"

putted region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

According to a Foreign Ministry official, the Azerbaijanis were protesting that the project had not been "approved". Moscow is financing a huge economic reconstruction of Nagorno-Karabakh, having refused demands by its majority Armenian population to transfer the territory to Armenia.



In Nakhichevan, border troops evacuated at least 500 Armenian women and children to Armenia, using "helicopters, trucks and anything else they could find," said Mr Boris Kularyan, senior editor of Armenia's official Armenian press news agency, "The men stayed behind to defend their homes," he added.

Meanwhile, another mass rally was held in Yerevan yesterday

Leading article, page 17

## Water Bill emphasizes quality

By David Walker and Nicholas Wood

The privatization of water is justified more on its environmental benefits than its financial attractions, the Government indicated yesterday when it published its water Bill.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, reversing the order of priorities in previous privatization

Details of Bill 4  
Leading article 17

ations, emphasized the regulatory nature of the regime, extolling the "police powers" of the 6,000-strong quango he is setting up, the National Rivers Authority.

The privatization would also give water and sewerage "improved private sector efficiency."

Continued on page 24, col 8

## Bold new Children's Charter gets wide welcome

By Frances Gibb and Jill Sherman

The biggest package of reforms to the law on children for decades, coupled with new machinery clearing the way for a unified family court, were outlined by the Government in its Children's Bill yesterday.

The Bill was heralded by Mr David Mellor, Health Minister, as an important reform to secure the better protection of children in the wake of the Cleveland child-abuse scandal.

It also aims to strengthen parents' rights and to "strike the balance between the need to protect children from harm and to enable parents to challenge any action which is taken." As well as a new single code for all law on children, the Bill creates an

"embryonic" structure for a family court. Magistrates will have power to refer complex children's cases up to a higher court for hearing.

Key proposals in the Bill include an eight-day emergency protection order in place of the 28-day piece-of-safety order widely used in Cleveland; rights

Bill details 4

for parents to challenge orders; and new court control of councils powers to remove children.

On the private law side, custody and access orders are abolished while a new range of orders on the child's residence, contact, "specified issues" and "prohibited steps" stopping a parent taking certain action without the court's consent - will be created.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord MacKay, said that the Bill "constitutes an important first step towards a more general examination of the arrangements for family business".

It broke new ground in the flexible way in which it dealt with court proceedings involving child care and "will enable the law affecting children to be applied uniformly with a single system of courts".

AR-party support is expected for the 79-clause Bill which was introduced in the Lords on Wednesday.

Child care, legal and social work organizations yesterday broadly welcomed the Bill but some claimed the changes would have huge resource implications. Barnardo's said the Bill recommended the best practice in

preventing child abuse and providing family support. "But we seriously question the Government's suggestion that an additional 150 staff will be enough to implement the changes proposed," a spokesman said.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children welcomed the prompt action by the Government and in particular the need for courts in future to regard the wishes, feelings and needs of the child.

Mr Stuart Bell, the Middlesbrough Labour MP who championed the rights of parents in Cleveland, said the Bill would be welcomed by parents in Cleveland and would go some way towards ensuring that "another Cleveland cannot happen again".

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NEWS ROUNDUP

## £1bn tank order decision delayed

A decision on whether to give a £1 billion tank order to a British or an American company was postponed for three weeks by the Cabinet's Overseas and Defence Committee yesterday. The Government is committed to deciding by the end of the year between the Challenger Mk2, being developed by the British company Vickers Defence Systems, and the M1A1 Abrams, built by General Dynamics.

At yesterday's meeting Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, outlined the details of both tanks, but did not make a personal recommendation. Part of the reason for the delay is that the Army and the Ministry of Defence have failed to make up their minds over which tank they prefer.

If the tank contract goes to General Dynamics, up to 10,000 jobs in Britain could be at risk, according to Vickers.

## More fixed penalties

A 15 per cent drop in court proceedings for motor vehicle offences in England and Wales last year resulted from the greater use of fixed penalties, the Home Office said yesterday. The change, aimed partly to take pressure off the courts, came from the introduction in October 1986 of the extended fixed penalty system. Police can now issue fixed penalties for a much wider range of less serious traffic offences. About 5,300,000 fixed penalty notices were issued in 1987, 15 per cent more than the previous year.

## Seal pups defy virus

Hundreds of grey seal pups are being born apparently healthy—despite fears that a virus which killed thousands of common seals earlier in the year would result in a disastrous breeding season. Mr Peter Hawkey, warden on the Farnes, the National Trust islands off Northumberland, said yesterday that all 777 grey seals born so far appeared healthy. About 200 more are expected to be born at the colony over the next fortnight. Concern grew after 21 seals born in the colony last year died from the virus that killed thousands of common seals around North Sea coasts.

## PC on murder charge

Mr Alan Waldoock, a police constable from Ashington, Northumberland, who has been held in Portugal since his wife Doris was found dead in a whirlpool bath in March, has been charged with her murder. He was arrested at Faro airport, the day after her death near the housing complex where the couple were on holiday. Mr Waldoock, aged 34, has been in prison in Faro on the southern Algarve tourist coast since his arrest. He was charged on Wednesday but no trial date has been fixed, the British embassy said.

## Girl 'admits' stabbing

A taped interview was played to Northampton Crown Court yesterday in which a girl aged 13 accused of murdering another girl in a Northampton park was heard breaking down and admitting to stabbing her. Carol Baldwin, aged 13, was stabbed to death as she walked near her home on March 26. During the taped interview the girl said: "She called me a slag. It sparked me off a lot. I just took a knife out of my pocket and stabbed her somewhere." The girl denies charges of murder and manslaughter.

## MP's libel damages

City Limits, the London entertainment listings magazine, is to pay substantial libel damages to Mr John Wilkinson, Conservative MP for Rushcliffe Northwood, over allegations that he had Nazi links. Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, Mr Wilkinson's solicitor, told the High Court yesterday that the claims were a "scurrilous attempt at character assassination". He told Mr Justice Michael Davies that the magazine withdrew the allegations, offered an unqualified apology and agreed to pay undisclosed damages plus all costs.

## KGB is 'stepping up' industrial espionage

The KGB has stepped up its efforts to steal Western technologies, according to Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. Mr Waldegrave told MPs on the foreign affairs committee that he saw no evidence of any slackening in the traditional covert activities of the Soviet security service. Indeed, there was "some evidence of an increased drive to

steal other peoples' technologies". He suggested that the role of the KGB was a good litmus test by which to judge the sincerity of the reforms within the Soviet Union.

The Foreign Office said it welcomed Soviet reforms but added that the KGB was so far "largely untouched by glasnost and perestroika". It was also "quite possible" that efforts at reform would be frustrated.



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## habitat

# MPs criticize 'inefficient' MoD

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

MPs of both main parties condemned the Ministry of Defence last night and accused it of wasting huge sums of taxpayers' money after publication of a report criticizing its management of British Forces in Germany.

Mr Michael Latham, a Tory member of the committee, said it was yet another example of "how awful the MoD are at businesslike activities". It was without doubt "the single most inefficient department in Whitehall".

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, a Labour member, said the committee was accusing the MoD of "complicity in delaying and dithering over pursuing efficiency savings" in West Germany.

He said "hundreds of thousands of pounds have already been lost" and the "dragging of feet" had to stop.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee, which has been regularly exposing waste and mismanagement in the ministry, suggested that in spite of more than 200 efficiency studies since 1980 there was still huge scope for savings in a BFG budget of well

more than £1 billion, not least on the cost of the studies themselves.

The committee accused the ministry of ignoring repeated calls for action and of having done practically nothing to improve matters until the National Audit Office had begun the investigation which led to this report.

The most devastating part of a wide-ranging attack was on the ministry's failure to employ more dependants of servicemen in civilian posts. A 1986 review had found inability to get work to be a "major cause of unhappiness" among servicemen's wives, thousands of whom wanted to work and many of whom were trained doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives and teachers.

Despite this BFG employed barely 4,000 dependants, compared to 18,000 Germans. The Germans cost nearly twice as much to employ and their absence rates were around three times higher, reaching 30 per cent in some units.

The committee said it was concerned, disappointed and surprised by what it had found, and

called on the ministry to mount a big drive to employ more dependants.

Elsewhere in the report the MPs criticized the ministry for having failed to assess the financial implications of its "accompanying service" policy which placed no limit on the number of dependants a serviceman could take with him to West Germany.

The 69,000 servicemen now had 83,000 dependants, including 44,000 children, who required a substantial social infrastructure ranging from married quarters to schools to churches.

The 1979 Hudson Report had called for a high-level review of the "accompanying service" policy, but this had never been conducted because the MoD believed the presence of dependants was essential to the operational effectiveness and morale of BFG.

The Hudson Report made a number of recommendations to reduce overall costs and improve efficiency. Only one has been implemented even though the MoD agreed at the time

that the search for savings should be pursued "unrelentingly".

The committee also called on the MoD to make greater efforts to promote British goods in BFG NAAPs which served 150,000 servicemen and dependants in order to reduce foreign exchange costs.

● The first defence contract between France and Britain under a new co-operation arrangement was announced yesterday in London by Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence Procurement (Michael Evans writes).

Under a reciprocal deal the French are to buy special communications equipment and the British will purchase mortar rounds from France.

The exchange arrangement was announced at the end of an Anglo-French conference on defence equipment co-operation. About 200 delegates attended the conference, which studied air force equipment up to the value of £50 million.

Public Accounts Committee: Costs and Financial Control of British Forces Germany (Stationery Office: £4.70).

## Ulster bomb deaths tragic, IRA says

The Provisional IRA yesterday described as "tragic" the deaths on Wednesday night of an Ulster pensioner and his granddaughter, both Roman Catholics, in an explosion which it had intended to destroy Benburb police station in Co Tyrone.

Unlike previous IRA admissions of its "mistakes"—and there have been 25 since the Enniskillen Remembrance Day killings last year, according to Mr Ken Maginnis, the Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone—the Provisionals' statement contained no apology.

Instead, it attempted to rebut allegations that the 500lb bomb was clearly designed to kill civilians by asserting "the IRA has nothing to gain by the deaths of civilians and, in fact, has much to lose in terms of support and of the propaganda the British government will make out of this incident".

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, condemned the IRA.

He said: "When you think, for example, of what happened last night in a small village... you realize the sort of viciousness with which we have to compete."

"Because no matter what stories may now be put about, people who put bombs in streets are people who do not actually mind and are prepared in the end to accept that grandfathers and granddaughters will be killed in that way."

Mr Bernard Lavery, aged 67, and Emma Donnelly, aged 13, died instantly when the car in which they were travelling was blown about 70 yards into a ploughed field as it passed the entrance to the unmanned police station.

Their deaths raised to 52 the number of civilians murdered by terrorists in Northern Ireland this year.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said the warning it had received was "totally inadequate".

The incident also highlighted the good community relations in Benburb, for the two Catholics who died had just given a lift to a Protestant neighbour after a bingo session in a local Catholic club.

Mr Maginnis said it was becoming difficult to find words to describe the feelings of outrage after such incidents.



Emma Donnelly, aged 13, and her grandfather, Mr Bernard Lavery, aged 67, who died in an IRA bomb attack on Wednesday night and, above, forensic experts examining the wreckage of the car in which the two victims were travelling through Benburb, Co Tyrone.

## South-east loses lead in computer pay

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Computer staff salary increases in Wales, the South West and the Midlands have overtaken those in the South East as employers search ever harder for scarce skills, says a survey published today.

But the survey, by Computer Weekly and the National Computing Centre, shows that computer professionals in Greater London still lead the way with

increases for 1987-88 of 7.9 per cent. Wales and the South West saw increases of 7.7 per cent, the Midlands 7.5 per cent and the South East 7.4 per cent. The annual national increase in computer salaries was 7.3 per cent, compared to 6.8 per cent in 1986-87.

The survey shows that rises vary widely in industry sectors. The finance and business service category leads with an average 9.3 per cent. The distribution sector enjoyed rises of 9.1 per cent,

manufacturing 7.8 per cent and the public sector only 6.2 per cent.

Development staff earn on average £15,279 in London and £14,168 in the South East, but only £12,425 in the Midlands, £12,326 in Scotland and £12,127 in the north of England.

Another survey by The Reward Group and the Institute of Marketing, shows that pay in sales and marketing rose by 7.3 per cent, although senior managers and representatives won 9 per cent.

## Mappa Mundi Runcie call to keep cathedral treasure

By Clifford Longley and Mark Sonster

It would be "tragic" if the medieval Mappa Mundi was sold by Hereford Cathedral to raise funds, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday. He called for a fresh look at the arrangements for state financial support for ancient buildings.

Dr Runcie, speaking on BBC radio, said he very much wanted a way to be found of keeping the Mappa at Hereford, as "that is where it belongs".

The English cathedrals were guardians of some of the treasures of the English heritage. There was a danger of creating "soulless" public buildings, he went on, while "stuffing our private houses

with opulent treasures."

The Mappa, a thirteenth-century depiction of the world with Jerusalem at its centre, has been at Hereford since it was created. The Dean and Chapter of Hereford have been much criticized since they announced that they have commissioned Sotheby's to put it up for public auction next year, having failed so far to find a way of keeping it for the nation.

Dr Runcie also expressed his sympathy for the dilemma faced by the cathedral authorities at Hereford. They had "the major responsibility of maintaining a glorious building" and high standards of worship.

He called for a cathedral

fabric commission, whose approval would be required for the sale of treasures of historical interest; and a review of the partnership between church and state for the support of historic buildings.

The precursor of Hereford Cathedral reallocated yesterday to criticisms by the Dean of Worcester, the Very Rev Robert Jeffrey, over the proposed sale.

The Dean described the sale as "misguided" and advocated a self-help policy to raise finances.

Canon Peter Iles, the precursor, said: "He must solve his problems his way and we will solve our problems our way."

Canon Iles said the Dean

and Chapter had done everything possible to market the Mappa Mundi "responsibly", but added that £7 million could not be raised simply by holding exhibitions and charging the public.

The Dean of Hereford, the Very Rev Peter Haynes also defended Hereford's role. He said in an interview on BBC radio: "I don't think the Mappa Mundi has been marketed more than we have tried to market it over the past few years."

Jigsaw puzzles had "sold like hot cakes" and reproductions had been made, while post cards and books had also sold very well. But massive sums of money were still needed.

## Long-haul commuters challenge BR 'monopoly'

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Rail commuters facing increases of more than 20 per cent in the cost of their annual season tickets are to ask the Office of Fair Trading to investigate what they regard as an abuse of British Rail's monopoly powers.

The commuters, who travel between Stafford and London, will have to pay nearly £600 extra for their tickets from January.

A letter sent to the OFT was signed by 20 commuters led by Mr Frederick

Fisher, an American banker, who works in the City, but lives near Market Drayton in Staffordshire.

Mr Fisher, who is married with two sons, has commuted to London for three years. His present standard class annual ticket costs £2,800.

In August British Rail said long-distance annual season tickets were charged at 4p-6p a mile, compared with 10p-12p for suburban commuters. It said the gap would have to be reduced.

Last month it was announced that in January fares on average would rise by 9 per cent, but those for long distance

commuters would go up by 21 per cent.

Mr Fisher said the new fare structure was "gravely prejudicial and manifestly unfair to the long-haul commuter".

"Such commuters have little choice but to accept a disproportionate increase in fares. Alternative transport for such distances is not viable."

A spokesman for British Rail said it had no monopoly because travellers could use alternative means of travel. Any OFT investigation would be welcome because it would show long distance annual tickets were discounted by up to 70 per cent.

## Evans in fight as police get clearance

From David Sapsted, Lyons, and Ronald Faux

David John Evans, suspected of murdering Anna Humphries, the missing schoolgirl, was involved in a fight with another inmate in prison here yesterday.

A cup of coffee was thrown over Mr Evans and blows were exchanged, an official at the high-security wing of St Paul's prison said.

Meanwhile, two North Wales detectives finally received clearance from the French authorities to travel to Lyons late yesterday after they had spent a second day waiting at Heathrow airport.

French government sources admitted that administrative hold-ups in Paris were responsible for delaying the arrival of the British officers.

It was not until last night that a special examining magistrate was appointed by France's Ministry of Justice to head the investigation. Only then could the two detectives, Det Chief Insp Colin Edwards and Det Sergeant Philip Thompson, head for France.

The Crown Prosecution Service had all the necessary paperwork ready in London on Tuesday evening.

Mr Evans had been arrested 24 hours earlier hitch-hiking about 40 miles north-east of Lyons. He had been sought since he left his parents' home in Bettisfield, North Wales, on November 9, the day after Anna Humphries, aged 15, had disappeared as she walked home from school in Penley on the Shropshire border.

French government sources said last night that delays had arisen because Evans was originally detained by the gendarmerie, which is answerable to the Defence Ministry, but on instructions issued by the police, which comes under the Ministry of the Interior.

When the former had handed over to the latter, the whole had to be transferred to the Ministry of Justice for the appointment of a magistrate.

It was this, as yet unnamed official who formally invited the two detectives to present their credentials.

Mr Leslie Evans, the suspect's French lawyer, will meet his client for the first time this morning.

French government sources said last night that any delays that had occurred were partly due to the necessity of ensuring there were no administrative errors in dealing with a potentially complex extradition case.

"You should just be happy we have arrested for you one of your most wanted men", a government official said.

Det Supt Gareth Jones, heading the inquiry, said at police headquarters in Wrexham that the Welsh detectives had to abide by the French regulations.

"We have just received notification from Interpol that permission has now been given to allow the officers to enter France."

Meanwhile the extradition procedure to return Mr Evans from France to the custody of the North Wales police was going ahead as a separate matter.

Asked if he was unhappy about the delay, Mr Jones replied: "I would not say they have been dragging their feet. I am now satisfied that our officers are going over and will be interviewing Evans tomorrow."

Following the death of Edward Arice Minassian, appraiser to the wholesale carpet trade and to the public consultant and appraiser to Her Majesty's Customs and Excise including the Special Department and Investigation Department and international authority on carpets, textiles and tapestries, part of his superb collection has now been released by his heirs to A. Wellesley Briscoe and Partners Ltd for a

### VERY IMPORTANT AUCTION OF HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL MERIT OF THE FIRST PART TO BE AUCTIONED IN LONDON THE EDWARD ARICE MINASSIAN COLLECTION OF RARE ANTIQUE EASTERN RUGS & TEXTILES FROM PERSIA, ASIA MINOR, CARIAN RUSSIA & CHINESE TURKISTAN including excellent silks and other important textiles.

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Edward Arice Minassian—born to Armenian parents in Constantinople in 1902—after arriving in England in 1917 to study law, his studies were interrupted by the sudden death of his father, a rug merchant, leaving him an established business. His natural talents in that field were soon spotted by Warrickmakers of New York who appointed him their agent on the London Market, then at the height of its prosperity. During that period of 1922-1925 he became a self-employed Broker and Appraiser and Dealer in oriental rugs. By 1934 he had married and then became Director of OMAR, a Harrogate rug firm. He later moved back to London with Nazars firm Westbourne Galleries.

During the early 70s the formation of the ICC took place in North London which naturally provided a home for the Chinese Carpet Company. By this time Minassian had been appointed the expert valuer to H.M. Customs & Excise and was nominated to membership of the International Guild of Valuers—a great honour.

His awareness after 10 years of research and practical experience owing to his ethnic appreciation embracing carpets, tapestries, embroideries, symbols and their meaning earned him the acknowledgment as international expert in Oriental rugs and textiles making him consultant to H.M. Customs & Excise for many years with the Special Department and Investigation Department and to numerous reputable legal establishments until his sudden death in August 1982 just after his Hamburg exhibition earlier that year.

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# Retiring IBA chief accuses Whitehall over attack on ITV

By Richard Evans  
Media Editor

Government plans to reshape independent television by scrapping much of its public service role amount to "an act of wanton destruction carried out for doctrinaire reasons", Lord Thomson of Monifieth, retiring chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said last night.

He issued a warning that British television was more likely to be damaged by "zealots in Whitehall" than by satellites from space.

His outspoken remarks came as he delivered the 1988 Robert Fraser Lecture in London. He warned ministers that he will step up his attack from the House of Lords on government broadcasting proposals when he retires from IBA next month.

Lord Thomson, who in an interview with *The Times* earlier this month said British broadcasting faced "near anarchy" in the 1990s as a result of the recent White Paper, used his valedictory address to expand on his fears.

The former Labour Cabinet minister said there was a danger of trying to do too much too quickly with broadcasting in Britain, "of destroying before there has been a chance for the new developments to show their potential".

He called on the Government to make use of the professional skill of IBA and Cable Authority staff in the delicate art of regulating commercial broadcasting when it came to setting up the new Independent Television Commission, rather than starting from scratch.

He urged ministers to leave Channel 4's funding arrangements alone rather than risk-

The "natural break" system of advertising on ITV emerged broadly intact yesterday after Britain won significant compromises during two days of discussions in Stockholm on the European draft convention on cross-frontier broadcasting. The original draft had stated that feature films could be interrupted only once and that other drama programmes and documentaries only once every 45 minutes.

ing "an ingenious formula" which had worked.

"But my main concern and criticism of the White Paper relates to its proposals for such drastic reshaping of ITV. Change there has to be. But I believe there is no need during the normal lifetime of the proposed new Broadcasting Act - usually around 10 years - for ITV to be released from as much of its public service role as the White Paper proposes.

"To do so would be an act of wanton destruction, carried out, in my view, for doctrinaire reasons".

Although he understood some of the impulses which lay behind the White Paper proposals, there was "a quite unjustified edge of denigration in some of the current political comment about the record of ITV companies."

Lord Thomson said he was happy that independent television companies would still have to provide programmes for schools, but there was no positive commitment to provide programming for informal education of adults.

"There is astonishingly no mention of any need to continue religious programming."

"There is no obvious peg in the text of Government's pro-

posals on which to hang documentaries, drama, the arts or science and children's programmes.

"Most striking of all, it will not be any part of the positive duty of the ITC to promote a national spine of network programming."

"Yet the absence of such a network would quickly put at risk the kind of programming that has won so many viewers and so many national and international awards."

While he favoured independent contractors having to pay an appropriate price for the right to broadcast, the White Paper also proposed "a savage series of imposts."

Independent television companies faced having to put in the highest initial bid for a franchise, then paying the new advertising tax of a levy on their revenue, while being deprived of their night-time hours and their selling of Channel 4 advertising airtime.

He added: "The system proposed for the future takes money away from precisely the area in which the present system helps to concentrate it, and where it is most needed - programme quality."

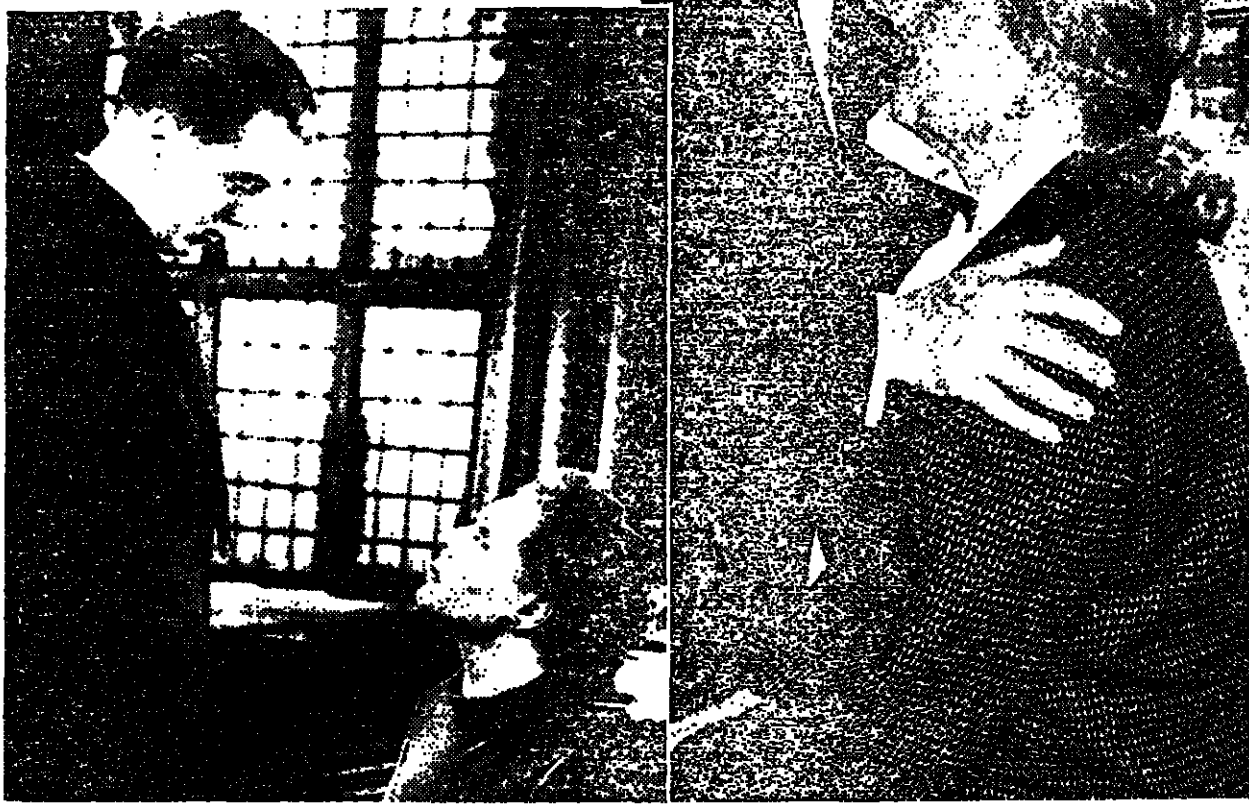
TV-am, the commercial breakfast time station, received a double boost yesterday which should guarantee its broadcasting future.

The main threat to its continued existence was removed when the Independent Broadcasting Authority declared that TV-am had made "significant improvements" in key areas.

Within hours the ACTT, the television technicians' union, confirmed it was dropping its demand for a judicial review which stemmed from the year-long TV-am industrial dispute.

## Mousetrap stars turn back the clock

Sir Richard Attenborough and his wife Sheila Sim recreating yesterday (right) a scene from *The Mousetrap*, the West End's longest running play in which they took the leading parts 36 years ago (below). They were among nearly 1,000 guests who attended a reception at the Savoy to mark the 15,000th performance next month of Agatha Christie's detective drama (Andrew Billen writes). Prince Edward will attend a performance on December 9 and Sir Peter Saunders, the show's producer, yesterday revealed that the play owed its birth to the prince's great grandmother, Queen Mary, who had asked Miss Christie to write a radio play for her eightieth birthday. The 30-minute drama *Three Blind Mice* was renamed *The Mousetrap* and opened in 1952. Sir Richard, who played Detective Sergeant Trotter more than 700 times, disclosed that his son Michael, now a theatre director, got his first taste of the theatre from watching the play at the age of two.



## UK secretaries 'best paid'

By Ruth Gledhill

Britain's secretaries, bus drivers, bank tellers and saleswomen are among the best paid in the world.

Primary school teachers work one of the shortest working weeks but take home less than half the net pay of their colleagues in Geneva, Tokyo and Zurich.

Toolmakers and lathe operators in this country are in the top half of the pay league and work one of the shortest weeks but cooks and electrical engineers are poorly paid in comparison with other European countries.

A study of prices and earnings in 53 cities by the Union Bank of Switzerland shows secretaries in London earn more than primary school teachers, bus drivers, car mechanics, construction workers, toolmakers, cooks and saleswomen.

The *Times* carried an advertisement this week offering £20,000 plus for a secretary and personal assistant, and the Alfred Marks Bureau said a temporary secretary in

London could earn £15,000.

Secretaries in London have the sixth highest buying power and take more than twice as much holiday as those in New York secretaries.

They also work the second-shortest week, 36 hours, in the survey of all the cities in the surveyed, and are outdone

only by secretaries in Houston, Texas, also on top salaries. Salaries are highest in Zurich, Geneva and Copenhagen and lowest in Cairo, Lagos and Manila and Mexico City, where gross hourly wages are between 8 per cent and 11 per cent of the average for all 52 cities.

### SECRETARIAL PAY AND CONDITIONS

	Earnings (gross £)	Earnings (net £)	Working week (hours)	Annual holiday (days)
Amsterdam	11,000	8,500	40	35
Brussels	12,400	7,800	38	20
Cairo	1,100	1,000	40	19
Chicago	13,000	9,800	39	13
Copenhagen	15,650	9,200	38	25
Dublin	7,500	5,100	37	21
Frankfurt	14,900	8,800	40	30
Geneva	17,000	14,300	40	20
Hong Kong	5,000	4,700	44	12
Istanbul	5,900	3,900	52	30
Jeddah	7,500	7,300	43	30
Johannesburg	6,000	4,500	39	15
Los Angeles	11,700	9,100	38	23
Luxembourg	12,600	9,900	40	10
New York	13,450	5,290	40	28
Oso	11,000	7,800	38	10
Paris	11,800	8,300	38	21
Rio de Janeiro	10,000	7,300	39	25
Tel Aviv	1,800	1,500	40	16
Tokyo	4,800	3,500	43	16
Zurich	11,200	9,500	43	17
	18,600	14,500	40	20

Figures based on secretaries to a department manager in an industrial firm, about five years of experience, with shorthand, typing, one foreign language, single and about 25 years old.

## Prince to be patron of Sane charity

The Prince of Wales has agreed to become the patron of a charity set up two years ago to help schizophrenia sufferers. Sane (Schizophrenia - a National Emergency) last night launched a £250,000 campaign to increase public awareness of schizophrenia.

The "Stop the Madness" campaign, which includes poster, radio, newspaper and cinema advertisements, is designed to shock the public into recognizing the illness, which affects one in 100 people.

Sane was set up by News International and the Burton Group after articles in *The Times* by Marjorie Wallace.

It has given more than £350,000 to projects to promote care and find a cure for schizophrenia, including £30,000 to a unit set up to identify the potentially faulty gene responsible.

Last night Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, gave his support to the campaign. Speaking at the launch at 12 Downing Street, he said: "The Government is deeply aware of the suffering experienced by schizophrenia patients and of the distress which affects their families."

Marjorie Wallace, director of SANE's awareness campaign, said last night: "Schizophrenia destroys the personality. It is one of the most painful and destructive illnesses known."

Leading article, page 17

## Wife guilty of killing rival

Agnes Carpenter was yesterday found guilty at the Central Criminal Court, London, of murdering the surrogate mother who was to have given her the child she wanted.

Helen Hodgson, aged 21, was two months pregnant when she was stabbed, beaten and suffocated with instant-contact glue in her mouth and nose. Carpenter hired the killers because her husband Ian had fallen in love with Miss Hodgson.

Carpenter, of Prince Henry Road, Charlton, south London, was jailed for life.

The Carpenters married in 1977 and had two children - one of whom died. In 1979 Agnes was sterilized, but the couple regretted the decision.

They approached Miss Hodgson who agreed to have a child for them. Mr Carpenter slept with the two women on a rota basis but his wife became dissatisfied and decided to get rid of her rival.

The hired killers, George McGovern, aged 18, of Bath Road, Plumstead, south London, and Andrew Watkinson, aged 24, of Goodin House, Charlton, both unemployed, were

found guilty of murder. Watkinson was jailed for life and McGovern, because of his age, was ordered to be kept in custody for life.

McGovern's sister, Cherie, aged 20, also of Goodin House, Charlton, was found guilty of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. She was jailed for ten years.

Roland Ashton, aged 47, a security guard, of Herbert Road, Woolwich, south London, was jailed for seven years for helping to dispose of the body.

## Detective's night with a suspect

A former policewoman who told a court she had a sexual relationship with a man after changing him with conspiracy may be prosecuted herself, a judge said yesterday.

Miss Susan James, a detective constable before she resigned from the Warwickshire force, had made her admission during cross-examination at a trial at Warwick Crown Court.

She said she had a sexual relationship with Mr Anthony Marren, aged 31, of Jasmine Grove, Coventry, in an attempt to get information from him after he and two other men were accused of a credit card conspiracy. However, she had not told her superiors.

Miss James denied that she became involved because she "fancied" Mr Marren. Yesterday Judge Frank Blennerhassett told her: "You acted in gross violation of rules intended to protect prisoners."

"I propose to direct that a transcript of your evidence be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions to consider."

He also ordered that Miss James be given a transcript Mr Marren, Mr David Rowe, aged 41, of Newnham Road, Coventry, and Mr David Lowe, aged 32, of Roundhouse Road, Coventry, deny conspiring to obtain property by deception last year.

Miss James refused to comment as she left the court yesterday.

The trial continues.

## Dangers of 'easy loans'

## Family saved from eviction

By Ian Smith

A couple with six sons who used their home as security for a loan to clear their debts and buy a £700 vacuum cleaner were saved from eviction yesterday.

A finance company agreed to cancel the contract that Mr and Mrs George Duke feared would mean they would lose their six-bedroom semi-detached home.

Last month the couple had been referred to Murtagh Holdings Limited of Timperley, Cheshire, by a door-to-door salesman offering the heavy-duty vacuum cleaner.

Mr Anthony Murtagh, managing director, said Mr and Mrs Duke were sent the written offer of a £12,000 loan with their home being used as security on October 28.

However, Mrs Wendy Duke, aged 36, said a

Murtagh executive arrived on their doorstep a week later and said they risked being evicted by Abbey National Building Society. The couple obtained an £18,500 mortgage three years ago and had incurred £724.31 arrears.

Mrs Duke, of Saxon Crescent, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, said she signed the loan agreement out of desperation.

"It was not until the following morning that the full impact of what I may have signed away hit me and I immediately contacted my building society and was referred to the trading standards office," Abbey National has undertaken to offer the couple a further £12,000 loan against their home once they have paid off arrears still owing.

Mr George Duke, aged 45, a steel erector, was unable to

maintain repayments because of time taken off work to look after two of his mentally handicapped sons which resulted in the loss of his job.

Mr Richard Bramley, principal trading standards officer for Barnsley council, said the couple had fallen into the same financial fly trap facing thousands of families every year. Desperate for loans they offered their homes as security, often without realizing the consequences, and are then evicted when they fall behind in repayments.

Murtagh Holdings is under investigation by the Office of Fair Trading after complaints from dissatisfied customers.

Mr Murtagh denied any company representative would apply pressure to persuade householders into signing a loan agreement.

## Richard Harris wins case

Richard Harris, the actor, won "substantial" libel damages in the High Court yesterday against the *Daily Star* over allegations that he had irresponsibly tried to use his own methods to cure his youngest son of heroin addiction. The settlement brought the case to a sudden end on the fourth day of the hearing.

Express Newspapers also agreed to pay all legal costs. The court was told that anyone reading the article would have thought that Mr Harris,

aged 58, had spoken on the record to a gossip columnist about the personal affairs of his son and not heeded professional advice.

The newspaper's publishers Express Newspapers and former gossip columnist Neil Mackwood had denied the words were defamatory, but said if they did defame Mr Harris, they were not libellous because they were true.

His counsel Mr David Eady, QC, told Mr Justice Michael Davies yesterday

anyone reading the article would assume that he had spoken on the record to a gossip columnist about the personal affairs of his son.

Also that he and Jamie's mother, his first wife Elizabeth, had not heeded professional advice at an earlier stage to aid the rehabilitation of his son's affliction.

As he left court Mr Harris said: "I am totally vindicated. I regret I had to come to court but I had to do it. The damages are very substantial."

## County looks to America for education chief

By David Tyler, Education Editor

The citizens of Kent, mobilizing against the Channel Tunnel, could be facing a different invader from across the Atlantic.

Their schools may find themselves taken over and their standard English given a Southern drawl or the sick clipped tones of New York.

The reforming demands of Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, have led to a shortage of Britons able to combine the academic, educational and managerial skills required to oversee Britain's new education system. The new breed of chief education officer may well have to come

from abroad, with Americans leading the offensive.

The first county to fall could be Kent, which is advertising the £54,000-a-year post, now described as Director of Educational Services. Mrs Brenda Tench, chairman of Kent's education committee, said: "Looking abroad is a very unusual step but it is a very unusual job. It is a very different position than hitherto."

The council is being advised by Karm/Ferry International, a company of professional headhunters that has worked for about six local education authorities.

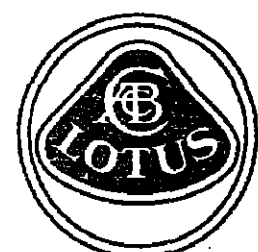
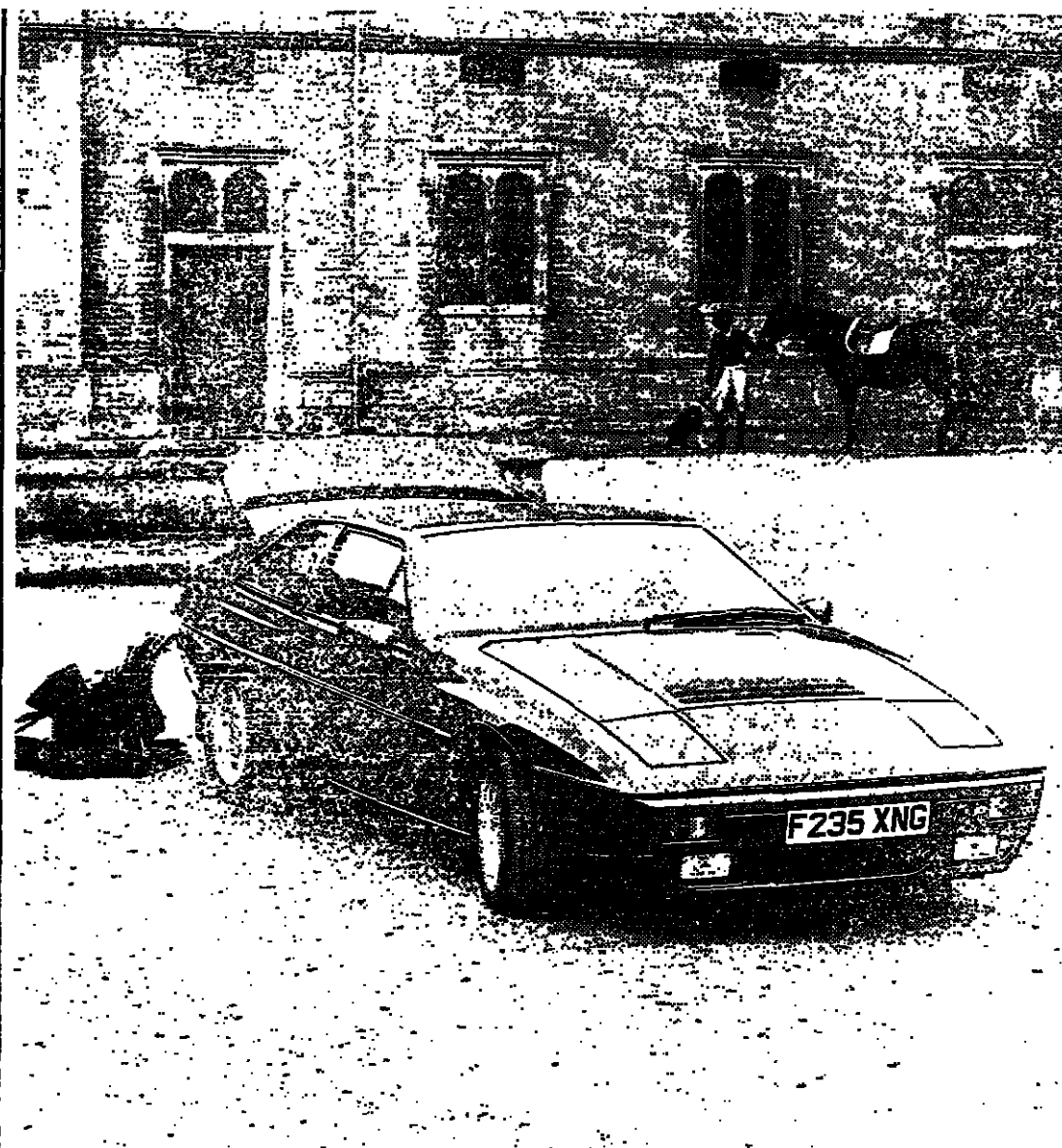
Mr Michael Brandon, a director, said: "We already know of a number of

Americans who would be interested in the post and will certainly be forwarding their names to the council."

Mr Brandon told *The Times Educational Supplement*: "Kent has an open mind and consequently will have the advantage of a broader field."

A short list will be drawn up early next month.

Korn/Ferry, which has a Washington office, has already placed two chief education officers - Mr Michael Stoten, the former chief officer in Brent, is now working for the new Kensington and Chelsea authority, and Mr Arthur Ridings moved from North Lincolnshire College to be the county's new chief education officer.



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# Ridley's Bill defines private companies' duties and responsibilities

## Transformation of water industry is put forward

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

The transformation of the water industry is sought in a five-part, multi-clause Bill which the Government hopes will reach the statute book by summer. The 10 water authorities are simultaneously to be floated as private concerns before the end of 1989.

### Water supply and sewerage

(I) The water companies will have a general duty to supply water, and to develop and maintain a water supply system in a given area. The Secretary of State for the Environment will have enforcement powers, and can prescribe "individual standards of performance", covering such things as how water companies keep appointments, read meters and deal with customers.

In the event of failure to perform, water companies may have to make compensation payments to customers. Water for domestic use will have to be supplied constantly and at adequate pressure.

(II) Water companies will be required to provide mains water supply to households, though house-owners may have to pay connection costs. They can insist that developers install meters, and pay for them.

They will be required to supply water for non-domestic purposes, though supply to households will take priority. If the water company and the

firm to be supplied cannot agree terms, the Director General of Water Services will act as an arbitrator.

Fire hydrants will have to be fixed where fire authorities insist, and water supply for fire fighting will be free of charge. Water companies will be open to criminal prosecution if they default in this area.

Water companies will be allowed to cut off supply to households, but if they act without statutory authority they will be committing a criminal offence.

(III) Water undertakers will be required to supply households only with water which is "wholesome", as defined by the Government.

In regulations the Secretary of State will be entitled to specify minimum requirements, "to forbid or regulate the use of substances, processes and products which might affect the quality of water supplied."

If a water undertaker supplies water through pipes that are unfit for human consumption he will be guilty of an offence, unless he did not know and had taken all reasonable steps to ensure quality.

Councils are to have a general duty to monitor both the wholesomeness and sufficiency of supplies in their areas. In emergencies they will be empowered to force water companies to lay on tankers. Councils will where necessary require action to be taken to improve quality; but companies will have a right of appeal against any council action.

The Department of the Environment will appoint technical assessors to examine drinking water, and will have legal rights to enter premises. Householders will be open to prosecution if they contaminate, waste or misuse privately supplied water, or if they tamper with meters. Water company officials will have a right to enter premises to ensure compliance, and to test and read meters.

(IV) Sewerage. As with water, companies will have a general and specific duty to lay on mains sewerage. Councils will be allowed, as at present, to act as their agents.

(V) Charges for services. A director general of water services will ensure customers are protected from "unjustified" increases in water charges.

The director general will try to promote competition between water companies and generally oversee their activities, in conjunction with the Government and the Office of Fair Trading.

Between now and the year 2000 water companies will have to devise an alternative means of charging since rateable values will disappear after March 31 that year. (Domestic rates are being abolished for local government purposes on April 1 1990.) Water companies will not be allowed to charge for draining water from public highways.

(VI) Compulsory purchase. Water companies will get powers to buy land compulsorily, but will need government permission to dispose of land acquired in that way. They will also be given powers

needed for pipe-laying and pumping.

(VII) Water companies will have a general duty to further conservation and provide for use of their land and reservoirs for recreational use.

### Customer protection

Complaints about water companies will be answered either a) through the director general of water services; b) reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission; c) an enforcement order from the Secretary of State; or d) emergency action by the Government involving a special administrator, who would be appointed to handle bankruptcy or a serious default by a water company.

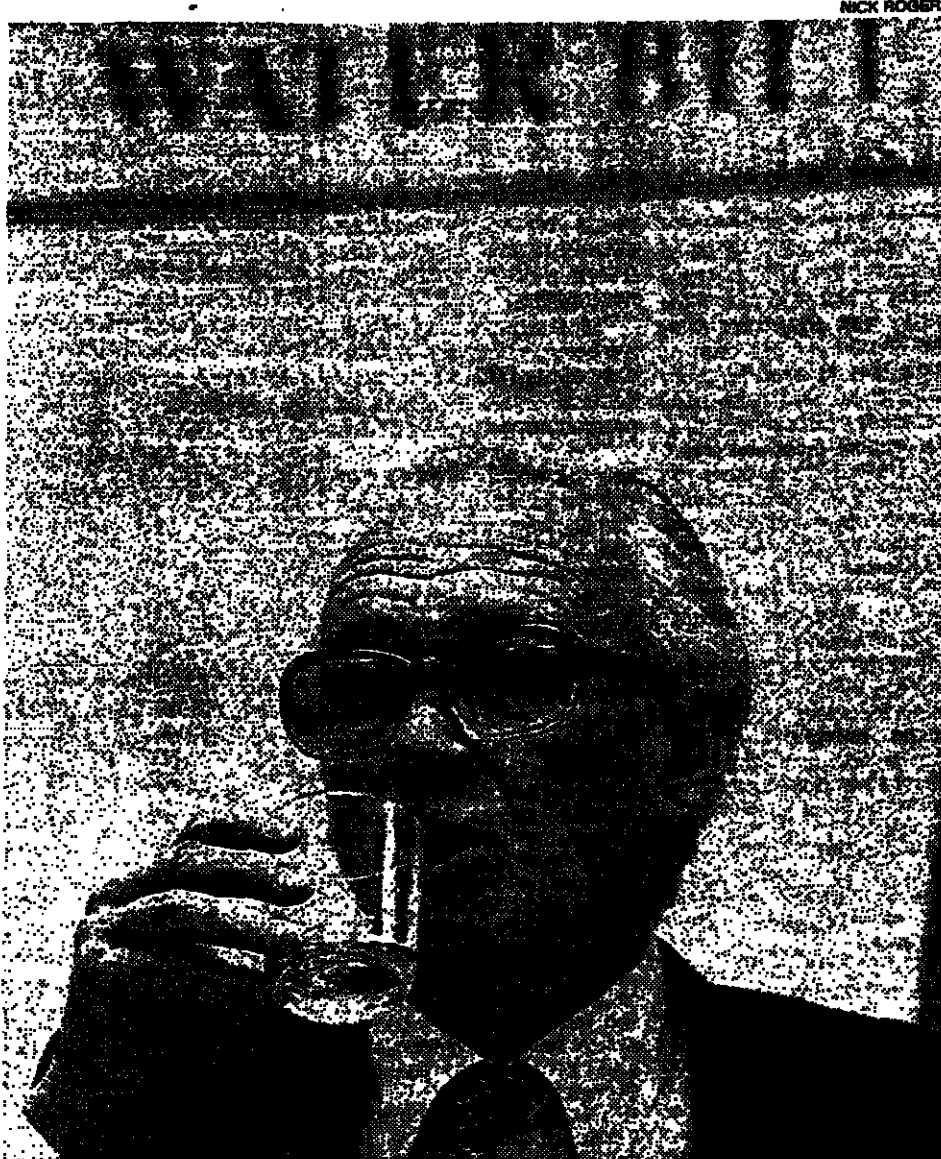
If a water company disobeys an official directive, the government can seek an injunction in a court.

### Procedure prior to privatization

The functions of the 10 water authorities which are not being transferred to the National Rivers Authority will be carried out by successor limited companies owned by the Crown and appointed for an interim period as water and sewerage undertakers.

All the property of the existing water authorities will be handed over to these interim bodies. They will be required to distinguish between their water business and other enterprises and establish a holding company.

The capital structure of these companies may be adjusted by the issue of shares - in other words may be privatized at the Government's behest.



Watershed: Mr Nicholas Ridley spelling out details of the water Bill yesterday.

After privatization some new rules come into play. For example, in the event of a failure to carry out official directives, the Government reserves the right to take over and dispose of, possibly to another water company, the water and sewerage side of the business.

At first the property of the water authorities will be handed to interim "group

companies" in which the Government will be the sole shareholder.

If necessary the Government may write off debt and take other technical measures to put these holding companies on equal terms with each other. The companies will then be listed jointly so they can be sold simultaneously or as a package.

There are at present 29

statutory water companies which are restricted to abstracting, purifying and supplying water on behalf of the water authorities. They are closely controlled.

In future they are to be free to operate as water undertakers in their own right and to convert to public limited company status. Current restrictions on the companies' finances and on the methods

by which they can issue shares will also be removed.

**Water environment**  
(I) A National Rivers Authority will be set up to take over the regulatory and other river functions of the water authorities. It will have between eight and 15 members appointed by the Government.

It will be financed through Treasury grants and Ministry of Agriculture help towards land drainage. The Department of the Environment will keep tight controls on its staffing levels.

(II) Control of pollution. A principal function of the authority will be to maintain and enhance the quality of inland, coastal and underground waters. In addition, the Government is to write a new classification for the quality of controlled waters.

The authority will regulate all polluting discharges to rivers and lakes through a system of licences for which it will charge. Polluting rivers and streams will continue to be an offence.

Other powers will allow the authority to set up special protection zones.

To help farmers prevent pollution there will be a new code. Breach of the code will not be an offence but the Government will take previous breaches into account when considering whether to issue a notice prohibiting pollution, for example by discharging farm slurry into a stream.

(III) The authority will have a duty to safeguard water resources for public water supply, especially through reservoirs storing river water.

The authority will license abstractions from rivers by water companies. Existing charges will continue for a time, but after two years the authority will have to review them. Information about the flow of water in rivers is to be made public.

(IV) Drought. The authority is to have a key role in the event of drought.

(V) Flood defence. The authority takes over the water authorities' current role in draining land and defending low lying coastal areas from flood. It will have powers in addition to carry out important works on river and sea defences, utilizing regional flood defence committees.

Existing drainage committees on which farmers and landowners are represented will continue.

(VI) Salmon fisheries. The authority will have the job of maintaining and developing salmon, trout and other fresh water fisheries.

(VII) The authority will take over the river navigation and harbour authority functions now performed by the water authorities.

(VIII) Conservation. The authority will promote conservation and provide recreational facilities on inland waters, especially when constructing or improving reservoirs.

(IX) The authority will get rights of compulsory purchase. It will present annual reports and accounts.

## Green issue ousts profit as the reason for privatization

By Our Public Administration Correspondent

The Government came close yesterday to saying the point of privatizing water was not profit or expanded shareholding but the green (and blue) environment.

Turning the Bill on its head, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said the Bill was, first and foremost, an advance in environmental legislation. He emphasized the strong regulatory framework he was putting into it.

A "fact sheet" published in parallel with the Bill by the Department of the Environment said the Bill would "provide a new, national regulatory framework of statutory quality standards, monitoring, and enforcement powers to protect our rivers, lakes, estuaries, underground and coastal waters (up to three miles out to sea)".

However, the exercise would also "free into private hands yet another important industrial sector".

The benefit of privatization, Mr Ridley said, was to end the water industry's need to compete with

other public services for permission to borrow. Under government control, water investment had slumped; under the private sector it would increase.

The Bill has three central elements: the winding up of the public water authorities and the sale of some of their assets to private companies, the companies' responsibilities which would include the creation of a new quango, the National Rivers Authority (NRA), and the appointment of a regulator, the Director General of Water Services, who will oversee charges imposed by the private companies.

The Bill appears to allow the possibility of foreign control of water supply; the main powers the Government reserves are over water quality and supply.

Mr David Kinnersley, a water executive who became a special adviser in the Department of the Environment, says the idea of privatization arose from frustration at controls on the 10 water authorities set up in 1973 to provide "integrated river basin management" in England and

Wales. Water authority borrowing counts against the public sector borrowing requirement and shackled water managers, preventing them from making the investment decisions their business dictated.

This argument was strongly advanced by Mr Roy Watts, the chairman of the Thames Water Authority. To placate him, environment ministers began considering freeing water from government controls altogether.

Rather than have the FSRB or the taxpayer pay for water expenditures, the idea is now that private companies will do the spending (for example on environmental works) and pay for it by additions to the household water bill.

Ministers acknowledge that water bills will rise, possibly by up to 50 per cent, they even accept that these increases are similar to a tax increase, but say the benefits of private ownership remain strong.

But it was only after the arrival of Mr Ridley that the major shortcoming of "pure" water privatization was realized. If the water authorities were privatized

as they stood, they would at one and the same time be required to make profits (which might require them to spend less on treating water) and to improve water quality.

He pointed out the anomaly of allowing what would become private firms continuing to have a duty to prosecute other firms for pollution. All prosecution responsibilities have now been lodged with the NRA or the Government.

During the preparation of the privatization Bill the Government appears to have strengthened the regulatory aspects, allowing it to claim that environmental protection was uppermost in ministers' minds.

The Government will either directly or through its appointees monitor and determine the quality of the water in rivers and in pipes supplying households. Water companies will be required to make their own assessments of costs and profitability in the light of this new framework.

At several points in the Bill the Government has emphasized that

this information will now, for the first time be public. An irony here is that it was a Conservative predecessor of Mr Ridley, Mr Michael Heseltine, who closed the meetings of the regional water authorities to the public.

Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Water and Planning, acknowledged yesterday that setting standards for water quality was inherently political. The Government has criticized the "rigor" of European Commission directives on water, but it now accepts that without European pressure, the Department of the Environment would have had to step in.

Bearing in mind the various regulatory agencies, the water companies will be free to make as much profit as they can from water and sewerage.

Charges to customers will have to be approved by the Director General of Water Services. Before privatization the outstanding debts of the water authorities will be adjusted so that the Director General can make comparisons between them on the basis of their

costs and performance.

The Bill will allow the 29 existing statutory water companies (supplying at the moment about one quarter of English and Welsh water consumers) to convert into public limited companies. This raises the prospect of takeovers, either by the bigger regional water companies or French water interests, which already hold a considerable stake.

Consumers will have a role in the new set up, the Government says, both through the regulating bodies and through a network of customer service committees, modelled on the existing consultative committees.

A difference will be that councillors will no longer be members as of right.

This sits rather oddly alongside the major role the Government is giving to local authorities in acting as watchdogs over the quality of drinking water at the tap, and the continuing role the town halls will have when the taps go dry and emergency tankers have to be brought up.

## Proposed new law on children sets up unified code to prevent abuse in wake of Cleveland

### Bill aims for a balance between need to protect minors and acknowledging rights of parents

### Fresh guidelines to social workers

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

By Frances Gibb  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A Children Bill to bring about a radical overhaul of the law on children - the "biggest legal reform of child care law in decades" - was unveiled by the Government yesterday.

The Bill, one of the key pieces of legislation this session, will bring in new emergency protection measures for children who are the victims of abuse or neglect in the wake of the Cleveland child abuse scandal.

It will also strengthen parents' rights to challenge court orders made about their children; and limit more closely the powers of local authorities to take children into care.

At the same time, the Bill paves the way for a new, single legal system for all family law cases with new measures by which the more complex cases involving children can be transferred to the county court and High Court from the magistrates.

Announcing the 79-clause Bill yesterday Mr David Mellor, Minister for Health, said it aimed to "strike the balance between the need to protect children from harm and the need to enable parents properly to challenge any action which is taken".

The events of Cleveland and the "devastating effect" of the removal of children on their families had shown all too clearly the problems that could blow up as a result of over-zealous action, he said. "I hope this Bill proves the Government takes parental rights very seriously indeed."

But he added that Cleveland would be "an unmitigated disaster for the country at large if it stopped people expressing quite legitimate concern about child sexual abuse."

While adults had rights, so, too, did children: "the right to grow up without being abused; the right to expect they won't be left to suffer because adults are not prepared to

The Bill's key points are:

- An eight-day emergency protection order instead of place of safety order.
- Rights for parents to challenge such orders after 72 hours and be represented at proceedings, and new rights of access to children in care.
- Strengthened rights for children to be represented in care proceedings.
- Need for local authorities to obtain court approval before removing a child, though new criteria for courts before sanctioning removal, and clearer duties for local authorities looking after children.
- Control of councils' powers to take children into care: responsibility for a child cannot be assumed by an administrative "parental resolution".
- Restrictions on the use of wardship as a means of giving councils compulsory powers over a child.
- Arrangements for child care cases to be heard at the level of court appropriate to the complexity of the case, with most High Court wardship cases being handled in lower courts through care proceedings.
- Social services departments to obtain court order to keep a child in care against parents' wishes and no order to be made unless the court considers it the best way of safeguarding the child's welfare.
- Duty on local authorities to return child as soon as risk has passed.
- Rights for unmarried couples to make a formal agreement, without going to court, for joint parental responsibility of the child.
- End of court power to make care orders in juvenile criminal actions and new power to include residence requirement in supervision orders.
- Reform of law on private fostering of children and children's homes.

act to stop their misery". The purpose was "to give a thorough wash and brush-up to both private and public law on children", he said.

It creates a unified legal code bringing together all the law on children both in the private sphere (that is, disputes between private individuals), in respect of custody and guardianship and, in the public sphere, in respect of the intervention of public authorities in care proceedings and other supervisory orders.

A single regime of rules will replace the present "fragmented, overlapping and obscure provisions" scattered throughout some seven different Acts.

Many of the reforms were embarked on "well before" the Cleveland inquiry but that had highlighted the need for reform to protect children from harm, he said.

All children, he added, had the "right to grow up without being abused". The new legal framework should create the best possible chance of the right decision emerg-

ing and where the principal focus was the welfare of the child.

"It is important to recognize that while there are changes to the rights of parents, the principal focus of this bill is children and it is the welfare and the rights of children that is the paramount consideration that has guided us in bringing this Bill forward."

At the heart of the Bill was the new eight-day emergency protection order which replaced the current place of safety order. "This makes clear that removing a child from his family can be authorized only if there is reasonable cause to believe that an emergency exists", he said.

The person obtaining the order would be under new duty not to remove the child if, after all, the child's safety proves not to be at risk. The order can be granted only for a maximum of eight days although that can be extended by another seven days if the courts are satisfied that is in the child's interests. The Bill contains new

opportunities for parents to challenge emergency protection orders made in their absence after 72 hours, and courts will be able to issue directions on access to the child and on medical examinations at the time the order is made.

People who might be the victims of false allegations about abuse should go before the court quickly and put their views that there is no justification for the order to be made. The White Paper, on which much of the Bill is based, proposed a court challenge after eight days.

The Bill will also abolish care orders in criminal proceedings and replace them with a power for the courts to make supervision orders and attach a requirement for the young person to live away from home for up to six months.

On interim care orders, the White Paper proposed these should be subject to a maximum period of eight weeks with two-week extensions in exceptional circumstances. The Bill would allow, after four weeks, extensions of up to four weeks.

But once the child has been in care for eight weeks these would be subject to fortnightly reviews of progress by the court.

The Bill does not create an Office of Child Protection as floated by Lord Justice Butler-Sloss in the Cleveland report; but a number of measures are brought in to tackle what that office was meant to achieve. In particular, the machinery by which magistrates' courts - on the basis of guidelines to be issued - will be able to send more complex cases to higher courts to be dealt with.

Second, there will be improved arrangements to ensure the independence for the guardians ad litem, the social workers who act on behalf of children in proceedings, including a framework of training.

Mr Mellor said that the Government had decided against the office

after widespread criticism that it would create another tier of bureaucracy. The original idea had been that officials from the new office would scrutinize care applications and ensure they were well-founded before they came to court.

Nor does the Bill include the child assessment order in addition to the emergency protection order, which was recommended in the wake of the Kimberley Carlisle report. That would be a lesser order which would enable the child to be produced for medical examination, for instance.

But Mr Mellor said yesterday that this was one area where the Government would be willing to listen to argument during the passage of the Bill.

On the area of private law on children, the Bill takes on board the main proposals of the Law Commission's report on custody and guardianship. Custody orders are abolished and the overriding principle is that whoever is given charge of the child, both parents retain full parental responsibility for its upbringing.

Instead of the old range of orders including custody and access, courts would be able to make orders of residence and contact; special issues orders and "prohibited steps" orders; for example, specifying that a parent would seek leave of the court before taking certain action like going abroad with the child.

The measures give the courts the kind of powers exercised at present by wardship courts at present. Parents will have a right to apply for such orders and others with a close relationship may apply for leave to seek an order.

Wardship proceedings will become a "safety net", only used in small numbers of cases. The substantial majority of the 2,000 wardship cases a year would under the Bill come out of the High Court and be dealt with through care proceedings by the lower courts, either magistrates' or county court.

Children should have the right to be involved in decisions about their future, according to new guidance for social workers dealing with cases of suspected child abuse published yesterday.

The document, issued by the Department of Health alongside the Children Bill, says it is essential that a decision on parents' ability to care is taken only after the social worker has explored all the information in depth. They should listen carefully to children, parents, other members of the family, and other professionals, it says.

The guide sets out a systematic approach to comprehensive assessment and emphasizes the importance of involving the child and family throughout.

It concerns long-term planning in child protection cases rather than the initial investigation of suspicious child abuse and sets out a series of questions which the social worker could ask both parents concerning each child in the family.

Questions should not concentrate on the known or suspected perpetrator, it says. "It is as important to know why a parent failed to protect a child as it is to know why the other parent hit him or her."

The questions initially focus on the problems experienced by the child such as injury, neglect, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and any physical and emotional manifestations.

"Too often social workers engaged in child protection work do not pay sufficient attention to what is actually happening to the child," says the report.

"They do not make a detailed assessment of his or her perceptions of the situation."

It says that the child's assessment should be based on the parents' feelings about the child; observations of the child and his or her interaction with others; a developmental history and the child's own views, whether expressed verbally or non-verbally.

Parents should be given the opportunity of telling the story of the child in their own way, but children equally should feel free to communicate.

"Opportunities need to be created for the social worker to get to know the child and create an atmosphere where the child feels able to communicate both verbally and non-verbally", it says. "Children have the right to be consulted about decisions that affect their future."

Following the assessment, social workers should consider the options available for caring for the child: at home; short-term separation leading to rehabilitation; permanent separation from parents.

"Children cannot wait indefinitely for their parents to change", says the guidance. "There is much evidence of the damaging effects on children being allowed to drift into local authority care without the appropriate attention being given to planning their future."

Social work intervention is aimed at ensuring that the children are safely and adequately cared for within their own families, says the guidance. "Or, where this is not an achievable objective within an appropriate timescale, that plans are made to provide satisfactory permanent substitute arrangements."

Children: A Guide for Social Workers undertaking a Comprehensive Assessment (Stationery Office, £5.95).



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Jim Mollison after his trans-Atlantic ordeal.

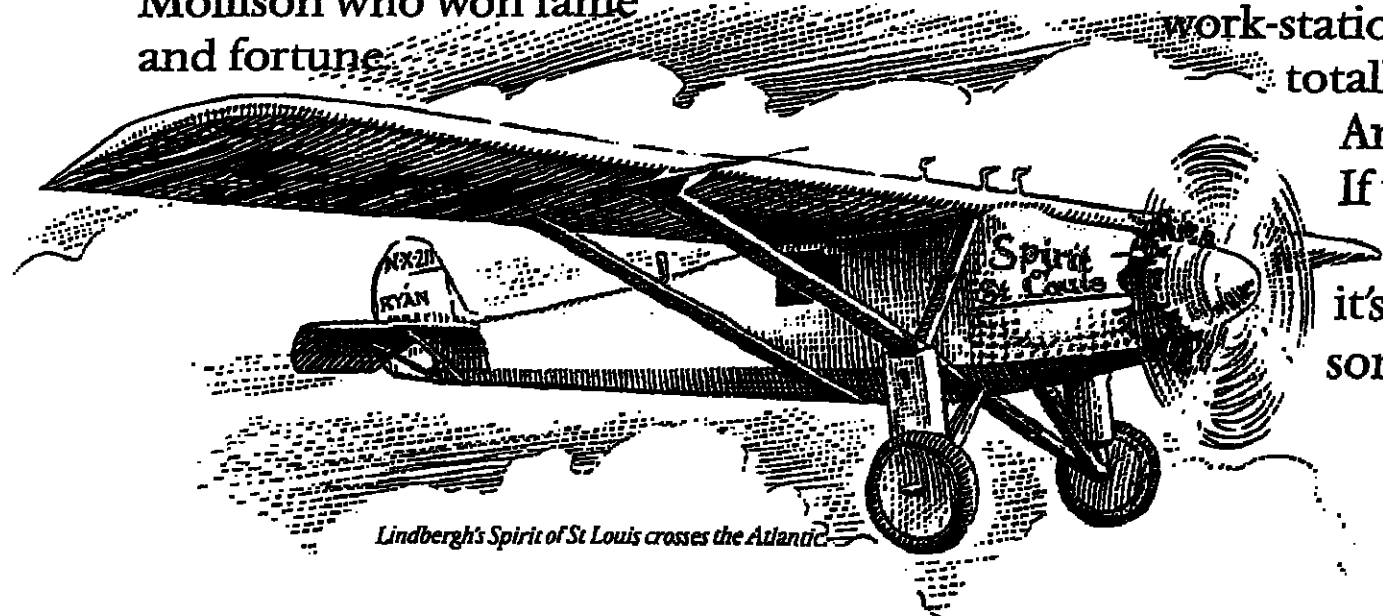
The 18th August 1932 was just another day in the annals of history.

Not so, however, for Jim Mollison, a little-known Scottish air ace. On that day in 1932 he took off from Portmarnock Strand, Co. Dublin in a 240 brake horse power monoplane.

Some 30 hours later "Intrepid Jim" touched down at Pennfield Ridge, New Brunswick, having successfully flown his plane single-handed across the Atlantic.

It was a highly commendable and historically relevant achievement by anyone's standards.

But alas, for Jim Mollison, this noble endeavour was recognised only for its insignificance. Some 5 years earlier on the 20th May 1927, one Charles Augustus Lindbergh completed the *first* solo trans-atlantic flight. And, as all the history books now testify, it was Lindbergh and not Mollison who won fame and fortune.



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# Stress driving one in three heads to early retirement

By David Tytler  
Education Editor

One in three head teachers who retired in the first eight months of this year did so because of the pressure and stress of the job, according to a survey published today.

The National Association of Head Teachers wrote to 481 heads who left their schools between January and August, and 33.1 per cent of the 353 who replied gave stress as the reason for their retirement.

Of those, 24 per cent retired before they were 54, and 53.8 per cent left teaching before they were 59. Only 26.6 per cent left at the normal retiring age.

Stress and pressure was given as the biggest single reason for retirement, with 27.5 per cent leaving because of redundancy, ill health or family circumstances, and 12.8 per cent per cent resigning because they were disillusioned over education reforms, the changing nature of the job or the policies of the local education authority.

Mr David Hart, the association's general secretary, said:

"The survey demonstrates the urgent need to raise the morale of and to provide motivation for the most senior members of the profession."

"Obviously pay is not the only answer. Better training, more administrative support for heads and a properly resourced national curriculum are also essential."

"However, unless salary levels provide greater incentives than at present, and unless they equate with the substantial responsibilities undertaken by our members, we shall continue to lose experienced heads at an alarming rate."

Another union, the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, today called for an inquiry into how stress and low morale contribute to the shortage of teachers.

The continuing teacher shortage could threaten the national curriculum while government proposals do nothing to improve the situation, the union told an all-party committee of MPs.

In its submission to the Commons select committee

inquiry into the supply of teachers in the 1990s, the union said that government plans to employ licensed teachers and to introduce bonuses in subjects and areas where there were particular shortages would fail to improve the situation.

Regional pay, the union said, would only move shortages from one area to another while mature recruits from business and commerce would be inadequately trained.

Calling for improvements in teacher training, the union says: "If more graduates are to be recruited, they need to be assured that they will be properly trained, adequately rewarded and given every opportunity to advance within the profession and to obtain higher qualifications."

The union, which is demanding improvements to in-service training, also wants the Government to reinstate the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers.

Its first task would be to investigate the falling number of students entering teaching, and why so many new teach-

ers never enter the classroom.

The union says that the advisory committee should also consider to what extent low pay, poor status, stress and low morale are contributing to teacher shortage.

A review of the impact of the GCSE examination has had on schools since courses began in 1986 was launched yesterday by the National Union of Teachers.

Earlier this week, the Institute of Economic Affairs published a pamphlet claiming that the GCSE had failed and that many parents would prefer a return to O levels, a claim denounced by Mr Fred Jarvis, the NUT's general secretary.

The union is hoping that the survey into the GCSE will provide evidence in support of the new examination.

Teachers will be asked the following questions: Has the GCSE been an advance? What effect has it had on teaching? What effect has it had on staff in terms of stress and workload? Do you have sufficient resources? How satisfactory was the training? Have your training needs been met?

## Israel puts a 'young man' in London



Mr Yoav Biran, the new Israeli ambassador, with Lieutenant General Sir John Richards, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps. Mr Biran, the new Israeli ambassador to London, who presented his letters of credence to the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday, is, at the age of 49, one of the youngest Israeli career diplomats to be given such a senior posting. However, he is no stranger to the job, having run the embassy for a year as chargé d'affaires after Mr Shimon Arzov, the then ambassador, was wounded in a terrorist attack in 1982. He replaces Mr Yehuda Avner, who was seen as a formidable defender of Israel's image in Britain, and takes office at a time when Anglo-Israeli relations have been under strain. Mr Biran graduated in international relations from the Hebrew University in 1963. He was a member of Israeli delegations to the 1973 Geneva peace conference and has also served in Uganda and Ethiopia.

## Technology teaching 'needs reforms'

By Douglas Broom  
Education Reporter

Subjects such as business studies, home economics, woodwork, and even computing could soon disappear from the curriculum of schools in England and Wales if ministers accept the recommendations of a report published yesterday.

The interim report of the National Curriculum Design and Technology Working Group says teaching in schools about the way things are designed and made is fragmented between too many

different subjects. Pupils need to be able to understand the relationship between the design of everyday objects and the technology used to make and run them, it says.

Attempts to bridge the gap, including the creation of the subject of craft, design and technology (CDT), have not gone far enough.

With design and technology intended to occupy one-tenth of the new national curriculum, the report's authors have conceded privately that their recommendations will mean the disappearance of many traditional craft subjects. Lady

Parkes, who chaired the working group, has said she wants to see subjects as diverse as cookery and computing included in the new discipline.

Too many courses in secondary schools concentrated on "narrow" fields such as mechanics and placed too much emphasis on acquiring knowledge at the expense of gaining practical experience, the report says.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, welcomed the report but said the working party would have to make its proposals more "concrete and precise" in its final report.

## Police may turn to 10-year contracts

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Police face a recruiting crisis in the 1990s which may be solved only with the help of mature, middle-aged recruits serving on the beat for a decade rather than a life-time.

Chief constables are discussing 10-year short-service contracts for older recruits in the next decade as projections show a sharp decline in the number of school-leavers, one of the traditional sources for

police recruits. Mr Peter Wright, Chief Constable of South Yorkshire and the new president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, disclosed the possibility of changes in recruitment yesterday.

Papers on the use of middle-aged officers have been prepared and studied by senior officers in the Metropolitan Police. Several forces had

started recruiting officers in their early forties, he said. The police might also decide to attract young recruits by cadet schemes or even change the qualifications for applying to be a police officer.

Mr Wright said he was against standards being dropped but forces could reduce their fitness requirements or height regulations. Mr Ronald Broome, Chief

Constable of the Avon and Somerset force, yesterday proposed the sale of key sections of the police responsibilities because of the strain on officers.

He was speaking after figures showed a dearth of new recruits and a shortage in his force of 55 officers. He said: "I would like to see us have off care of stray dogs and lost and found property".

## Mixed fortunes for water-colours

A total of 40 per cent of a collection of nineteenth-century water-colours gathered during the early 1970s by Paul Vogel, a retired Swiss dealer, failed to sell at Christie's London yesterday.

"We hoped we would do right for him but in the event we didn't", Lord Poltimore, the water-colour expert, said.

"Ultimately, there were too many water-colours, the sale was too mixed and difficult to direct to the right clients."

Italian and Spanish paintings did well, however, top lot being a softly-coloured "wooded river landscape with a fishing boat" by Giovanni Boldini, an artist who died in 1943. That sold on its upper estimate at £20,000. A painting showing altar boys preparing incense before going on procession by the Spanish artist Jose Villegas y Cordero (1848 to 1942) sold for £15,400 (upper estimate £12,000).

A portrait of Helena Rubinstein drawn on Bavarian limestone in preparation for printing, fetched top price at the Curwen Studio archive sale at Bloomsbury Book Auctions, selling to one of many

private buyers present for £4,200.

Of the many twentieth-century greats on offer, John Piper performed well, although on the general art market scale, prices remained modest. His lithograph of Oxborough Hall, Norfolk, published by Christie's Contemporary Art in 1976 fetched £770 (estimate £350 to £500).

A state proof lithograph by Henry Moore of "Seventeen Reclining Figures with an Architectural Background" fetched £3,850 (upper estimate £3,000). The Charles Suite, a group of eight prints by David Gentleman, sold for £570 (more than double its estimate).

The British Museum has been given 133 Roman silver coins from the Chells Manor Village Hoard, discovered near Stevenage in Hertfordshire two years ago. The coins were minted between 193 and 263 AD.

### Weekend food prices

## Bargain meat offers before the holidays

Meat prices are creeping up and many present offers are unlikely to be repeated before the new year. Rump steak is again the star buy, with the average price around £3.43 a lb, although Sainsbury has it at £2.38, Tesco £2.49 and Asda £2.79.

All cuts of lamb are up by 1p-3p a lb in the South-east but by less elsewhere. Whole leg is about £1.91 a lb in the South-east and £1.80 elsewhere. This joint is available at Tesco for £1.79 a lb and Sainsbury has whole shoulder at 88p a lb, well below the average £1.04.

Leg of pork costs 87p-£1.88 a lb, boneless shoulder between 94p-£1.56 and loin chops £1.23-£1.63 a lb. Safeway has home-produced braising steak at £1.76 a lb and frozen self-basting turkey 57p a lb. Sainsbury's frozen roasting chicken, 3 lb 9 oz to 3 lb 14 oz, is 39p a lb.

Asda has 3 lb packs of frozen chicken drumsticks for £1.99 and home-produced frozen leg of pork (bone in) at 99p

a lb. Presto has braising shoulder steak at £1.76p lb.

Did you know that a portion of brussels sprouts contains as much vitamin C as four oranges? They are good value at 15p-30p a lb - cook them with an onion to keep their smell under control.

Other produce available includes Italian calabrese at 55p-95p a lb and Dutch chiorio, 90p-£1.10 a lb. The first Canary Island tomatoes are 30p-55p a lb, and Spanish and Italian celery, 40p-60p a head, is probably better than home-grown, which is a bit stringy. Spanish and Dutch spring onions are 35p-55p a bunch and home-grown are 25p-45p.

Who could resist a bacon butty in this cold weather? Of course, there is more to bacon than butties, to quote the British Food Information Service, which has published a leaflet of eight recipes.

You can get a free copy by sending a stamped addressed envelope to BFIS at 542-544 Market Towers, New Covent Garden, London SW8 5NQ.

## Drugs case remands

Seven men and a woman arrested after the seizure of 10kg of cocaine worth an estimated £1 million were remanded in custody until December 1 at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court, west London, yesterday.

They were Martin Patasavvas, aged 22, of Stuart Road, East Barnet; Costas Apostolou, aged 20, of Adolphus Road, Finsbury Park; Frank Joseph, aged 27, of Kingsbridge Court, Cam-

den Town; Gerald Copeman, aged 28, of High Road, North Finchley; Mario Magerou, aged 21, of Gladbeck, Enfield; Roger Braithwaite, aged 26, of Sterling Close, Rainham; Tony Kouras, aged 27, of Redhill Slope, North Finchley; and Janet Nelson, aged 20, of St Mark's Gate, Victoria Park, Homerton, all London. They are all accused of attempting to smuggle South American cocaine into Heathrow airport on November 23.

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## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Mitterrand to see rocket launched

Paris — President Mitterrand of France arrives today in Moscow for two rounds of talks with President Gorbachev, before flying to Baikonour, Kazakhstan, tomorrow to see a French cosmonaut launched into space with two Soviet colleagues on a month-long mission to the Mir station (Susan MacDonald writes).

Mitterrand, on the eve of his Soviet visit, which will be followed by trips to Czechoslovakia in December, Bulgaria in January and East Germany, Hungary and India before the middle of next year, gave an exclusive interview to the daily *Liberation*. He said that Mr Gorbachev must improve Soviet buying power and economic development to succeed in his reforms. "I prefer this orientation to that of arms stocking."

## Warsaw Pact dissent

Budapest (AP) — Hungary, retaliating for Saturday's expulsion of a high-ranking Hungarian diplomat by the Romanian Government, yesterday expelled Romanian commercial councillor Mr Pavel Platona, continuing the deterioration of relations between the Warsaw Pact allies.

Last summer Romania expelled staff and closed the Hungarian consulate at Cluj-Napoca in Transylvania following a demonstration in Budapest by up to 50,000 people protesting at Romanian treatment of some 1.7 million ethnic Hungarians living in Romania.

● **Nemeth endorsed:** Hungary's parliament yesterday endorsed Mr Miklos Nemeth as the prime minister, following the resignation of Mr Karoly Grosz.

## Aer Lingus inquiry

New York — Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, denied yesterday that it had broken a US embargo on supplying military equipment to Iran by shipping American C-130 aircraft parts to the country (James Bone writes). US Customs and a federal grand jury in Miami are investigating allegations that the airline made a huge profit by shipping millions of dollars in aircraft spare parts illegally to Iran between 1981 and 1987.

The investigation, which has been under way for more than six months, became public when it was reported by CBS television news. An Aer Lingus spokesman in Dublin said yesterday the company had supplied spare parts to Iran but C-130 parts were not among them.

## Prayers for heiress

Athens — The body of Miss Christina Onassis, the Greek heiress, was flown from Buenos Aires to Athens yesterday on the way to her last resting place, the family churchyard on Skorpios Island, off the west coast of Greece (Mario Modiano writes). Prayers were said at Athens airport as her coffin, which was accompanied by her former husband, M. Thierry Roussel, a French businessman, relations, friends and business associates, was removed from the aircraft.

A public funeral service will be held today at St Fotini Church in the Athens suburb of Nea Smyrni.

## Emergency call goes out for international aid for children and old people

## Dying Kurds facing hard winter in tents

By Hazzir Teimourian

Tens of thousands of Kurdish refugees in Iran and Turkey face the harsh winter under canvas with little food and practically no sanitation or medical care, it emerged yesterday.

A meeting at the House of Commons, organized by the British Working Party on Chemical and Biological Weapons, heard that three months after the latest wave of Kurds fled Iraq to escape a military offensive, allegedly involving chemical weapons, children were dying from cold while older refugees suffered exhaustion, malnutrition, typhoid and cholera.

Yesterday's participants included Mr Gwynne Roberts, whose documentary, *The Winds of Death*, screened on Channel 4 this week, claimed to provide the first hard evidence that Iraq used chemical weapons in its summer offensive against its own Kurdish population.

The influx of the past three months, estimated at about 85,000, is thought to have taken the total number of displaced Kurds to more than 400,000. Yet the amount of

international aid pledged to the two host countries appears desiccated. No figures are available for Iran, but Turkish officials told Reuters on Wednesday that only \$1.5 million (£882,000) had been promised so far, from Denmark, the European Community, and the Red Cross Societies of Britain and Luxembourg.

After what Mr Roberts described as "the forced expulsion" of some 40,000 of the refugees by Turkey into Iran since September, the number still officially remaining in Turkey is put at 36,000, of which some 21,000 have been housed in temporary camps made for earthquake victims. Some 15,000 live in tents in a camp near Mardin, in the Kurdish south-east, where the bath-house has been closed for a month and refugees claim they have to share one blanket between six.

Mr Ahmed Nevruz, the Deputy Governor of Mardin, who is in charge of the refugees, told Reuters that the refugees would soon receive their first supplies of uncooked meat, together with

shoes, stoves and track suits. "The relief effort ... costs Turkey \$10,000 per day in food alone," he said.

Conditions in the camps over the border in Iran are said to be just as bad. Mr Roberts, who visited the Ziwa camp near the city of Urmia, told *The Times* that Ziwa held about 15,000 refugees, mostly in tents and under canvas.

"But tents are no protection at all from the cold and the damp. We were told that some 70 per cent of the refugees were sick when they arrived. They were given one piece of bread each day and they had no heating."

Meanwhile, Britain's decision to double the Export Credit Guarantees to Iraq to £340 million has angered members of the tiny Kurdish community here.

Dr Shafiq Qazzaz, of the British-Kurdish Friendship Society, said: "We are aghast at the chasm between the British Government's claims that it is against chemical weapons and its actions, which amount to a pat on the back for the perpetrators of these crimes."



Kurdish children from Iraq shivering in a refugee camp near Mardin in south-eastern Turkey. Hunger, typhoid and cholera are also threatening the camp's 15,000 refugees.

## Greece asks US to extradite fugitive banker

From Mario Modiano Athens

Greece has asked the United States to extradite Mr George Koskotas, the fugitive Greek banker, who was arrested at a Massachusetts airfield early yesterday after a dramatic pursuit by inquisitive Greek journalists across the American continent.

The Athens Public Pro-

secutor was hastily putting together a file of documents to back up the extradition demand, while a court in Boston is to rule today on the extension of the prisoner's detention.

Mr Koskotas, aged 34, fled from Greece on November 7 to evade charges of forgery and embezzlement involving at least £120 million entrusted to his Bank of Crete by state

enterprises. The Greek Government was accused by the opposition of easing his escape to stop him from exposing official corruption.

Greek reporters spotted him in Brazil, which has no extradition treaty with Greece. They also established that Mr Koskotas had been smuggled out of Greece in the private jet of another Greek tycoon, Mr Argyris Saliarelis. The ty-

coon's Lear Jet was identified by journalists at Rio de Janeiro airport, just as Mr Koskotas, his wife and their five children prepared to take off for Kingston, Jamaica.

It appears that the fugitive banker was uncertain about the extent of his immunity in Brazil and was probably uncomfortable because the reporters were on his trail.

Mr Yiannis Kapais, the

Greek Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said he had been roused in the middle of the night by a Greek newspaper editor after his Washington reporter had found that the Lear Jet was heading for Bedford, Massachusetts, rather than the Caribbean, as declared, and discovered that no warrant had reached the airfield's authorities for Mr Koskotas. Frantic dip-

lomatic exchanges between Athens, Washington and Bedford followed, and the banker was detained even before a writ reached Massachusetts.

Remarkably it was the arrest of Mr Koskotas in Washington last year on 1979 tax fraud charges that had first caused eyebrows to rise in Athens about his probity. He was then set free on bail of \$1 million (£546,000).

## Fast-living Japanese opt for burger orders by taxi-fax

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

If you are Japanese and have never seen a fax machine, the chances are that you are one of those forgotten soldiers whom television crews discover living off berries in the mountains, waiting for the Second World War to end.

Japan, forced into the laboratory by its tele-uncfriendly script, has developed the facsimile machine. As a bonus, faxes also seemed to be a handy way of bypassing the formalities expected in even the simplest business telephone calls.

In Tokyo, faxes have become as humdrum as Honda cars. You can order a cheeseburger from McDonald's in the capital by fax, and it will be ready for you when you arrive: life in Japan is too short to queue for 40 seconds. Even lowly noodle shops have them. Chemists accept prescriptions after hours by fax. Estate agents will even haggle over prices by fax.

Yesterday, the fax-paper delivery boy — yes, really — mistakenly knocked on my front door with fresh supplies of fax paper. It was for my neighbour, one of the growing number of Japanese who have installed home fax machines.

The rental is cheaper than leasing a mobile phone in London and the charges are the same as for an ordinary telephone call. The owner keeps in touch and the sender saves time and cash by avoiding the pricier Japanese post or even more expensive messenger services.

The Japanese taste for use-less electronic gadgets is dizzying. When the gadgets actually do something useful, their appetite is almost insatiable. By the end of the year, there will be 4.5 million fax machines in Japan, a doubling of the total in just 12 months, and nearly four times as many as in America. Their tell-tale bleeps and drones, which

sound just like electronic indigestion, are everywhere.

A 100-strong chain of coffee bars in Tokyo has put fax machines in half its shops. While frustrated commuters in London gallop across the concourse at Paddington, struggling to find a telephone that works, Japan Railways has installed fax machines at 53 of its stations.

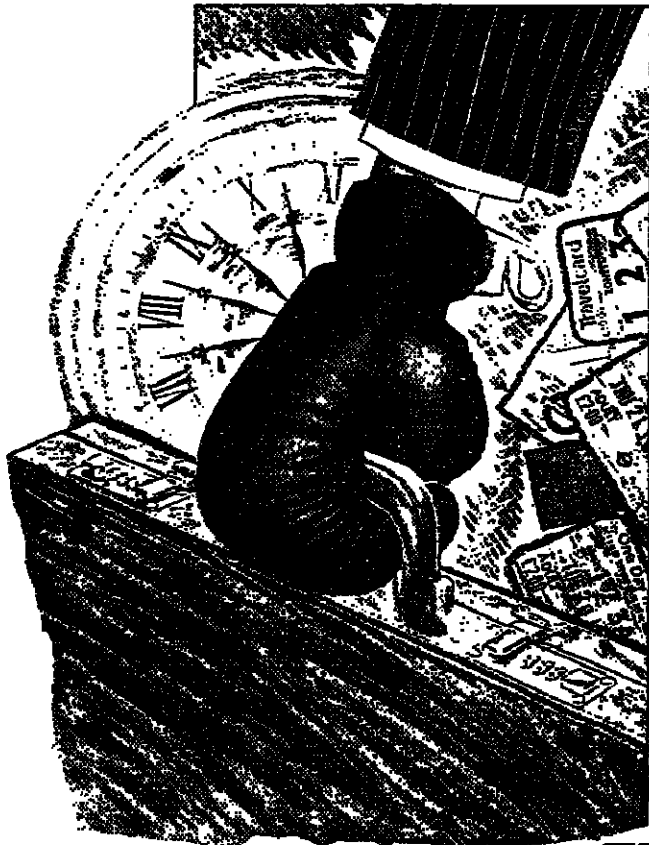
Corner stores have fax machines. Televisions and telephones are old hat in taxis. Faxes in taxis are the latest way of getting through to headquarters or your bookie when you are stuck in traffic.

The Japanese, never slow to exploit a product's potential once they have got the hang of it, are now busy inventing new applications for faxes. One novelty is home-study courses. Rieko, one of Japan's biggest fax-machine makers, started a fax correspondence study course last spring aimed at schoolchildren.

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# Trouble over numbers hits latest Gulf prisoner swap

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Bitter wrangling over numbers between Iran and Iraq yesterday marred the start of the biggest prisoner exchange between the two countries since the outbreak of war in 1980 and sharply reduced the expected total of men from either side to receive their freedom.

The trouble began when Iran announced it was returning only 52 Iraqis from Tehran to Baghdad instead of the 115 sick and wounded prisoners of war who had been expected to travel on the first of a series of shuttle flights between the two capitals. Iraq hit back by allowing only 19 Iraqis to return home instead of the scheduled 41.

An announcement from the official Iranian news agency claimed that 36 of the PoWs who were on the original list had sought asylum and no longer wanted to return, while a further 27 had been examined by Red Cross doctors and were no longer considered disabled by wounds or illness.

Tehran's action infuriated the Iraqis, who are already facing predictions that up to 20 per cent of their citizens will refuse to come home,

which prompted the tit-for-tat retaliation. "We were forced to decrease the number of the group of sick or wounded Iranian PoWs according to the reciprocal and ratio basis," a Foreign Ministry official told reporters in Baghdad.

Diplomatic observers said that the row reflected the deep

Nicosia (Reuter) — A former Iranian Health Minister was unconscious in hospital yesterday after being stabbed, the Iranian news agency, IRNA, reported. Mr. Kazem Sami underwent six hours of emergency operations. IRNA quoted sources at the clinic where brain specialist Mr. Sami worked as saying the attacker had posed as a patient and escaped after the assault on Wednesday.

disturbance which still exists between the two countries despite their August ceasefire and it boded ill for the prospects of the other PoWs being held. Iran holds an estimated 70,000 Iraqis and Iraq about 30,000 Iraqis.

Both the International Committee of the Red Cross

and the United Nations have criticized Iran's attempts to "turn" Iraqi prisoners by what is known as "brainwashing" and to sides of Ayatollah Khomeini as "spiritual guidance". But yesterday's dispute was evidence they have been at least partly successful.

A UN mission to prison camps in Iran earlier this year was greeted with hysterical and sometimes violent demonstrations in which the Iraqi PoWs denounced Iraq and its leader, President Saddam Hussein, and praised the Ayatollah. Some also attacked the ICRC which is supervising the prisoner exchange.

An ICRC spokesman, M. Paul Henri Morand, assured reporters in Baghdad to watch the return of what was to be 1,158 Iraqis and 411 Iraqis over a ten-day period, that every prisoner would be asked by the Red Cross if he wanted repatriation. "Nobody will be forced to board the plane against his will," the official said.

Before leaving Tehran aboard the chartered DC-9 aircraft staffed by a Red Cross

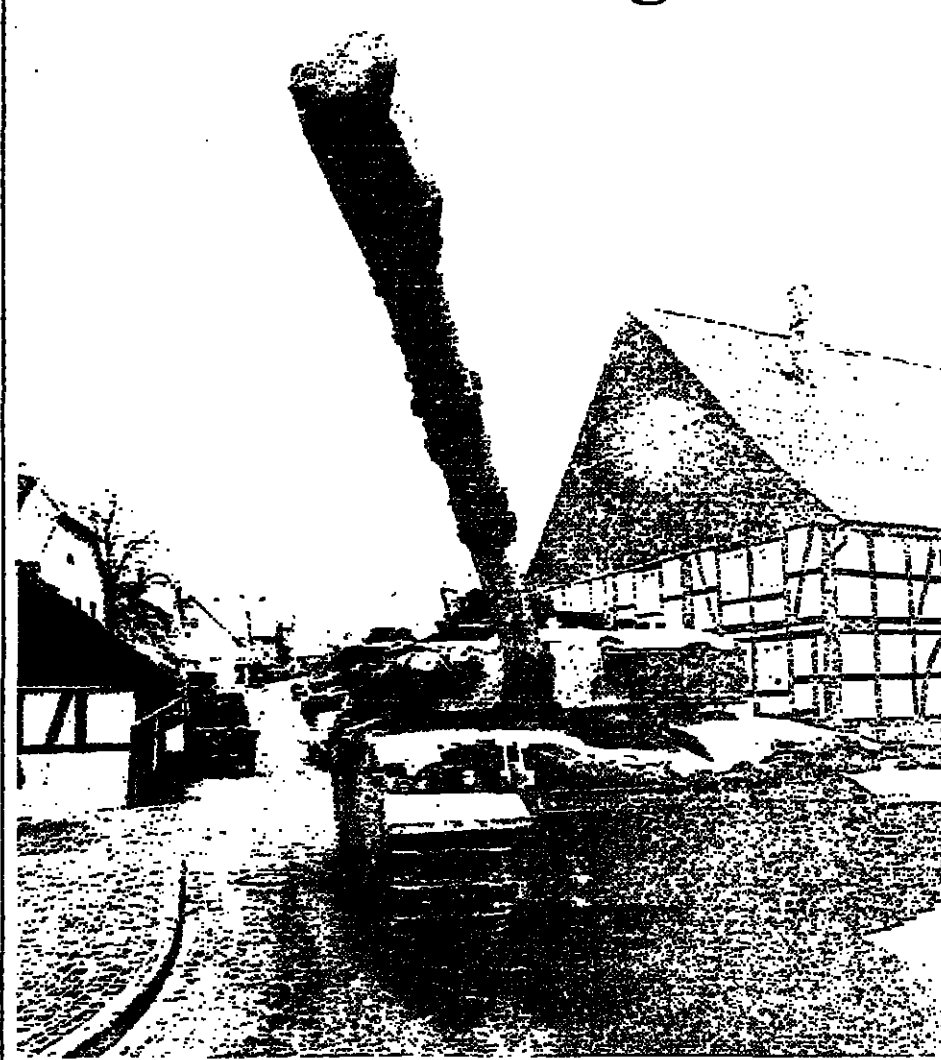
medical team, all the departing Iraqi prisoners were given a copy of the Koran and Persian craftwork as gifts from their captors. On arriving in Baghdad, many kissed the tarmac and shouted: "Long live Saddam Hussein. Long live Iraq. Long live our brave people."

Mr. Akram Al-Witri, head of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's legal department, quoted the ICRC as stating that 15 of the original batch of 115 had decided not to return to Iraq, 17 were cured and were not allowed to return and eight were having a check-up.

He added that 17 others had already been set free by the Iraqis and their whereabouts were unknown, while the fate of at least three others was unclear. A Kuwaiti paper reported yesterday that three of the Iraqis due to fly home had died.

Yesterday's exchange of men, already delayed for 48 hours at Iran's request, was the first tangible sign of progress since the Geneva peace talks between the sides began on August 25, in which negotiators are still far apart on a number of key issues.

## British tank rising to the challenge



A British Army Challenger Mk 2 main battle tank of the 3rd Armoured Division rambling through a village street south-west of Hannover, West Germany, yesterday during Exercise Iron Hammer 88.

While the division's Challenger tanks were being put through their paces, the Government in London failed to make a decision on whether to purchase more of these tanks to replace the ageing Chieftain, the Mk 1 version (Michael Evans writes).

Despite blizzards and bitterly cold weather, the 3rd Armoured Division, equipped solely with Challenger tanks, together with West Germany's 20th Armoured Brigade and a Belgian reconnaissance battalion took part in the exercise to test tactics and manoeuvres.

Senior British Army officers said that the Challenger, which has been criticized for its fire control system — its ability to fire accurately on the move — had performed well.

Exercise Iron Hammer, involving 24,500 troops, 275 tanks, 2,000 other tracked vehicles and 4,500 wheeled vehicles, has been going on in an area extending from Braunschweig and the Harz Mountains in the east to Osnabrück and Ummen in the west and from Hannover in the north to Kassel in the south.

The exercise, which began on November 1, is due to end today.

## Ultra-Orthodox power a 'catastrophe' for Jewish fundraisers

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Mr Arye Dulzin, the recently retired head of the Jewish Agency, the international fund-raising organization, says of Israel: "We are facing nothing less than a catastrophe."

The same fear has prompted 40 top-ranking reserve officers to sign a petition to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, warning him that a serious danger to the security of the country "will spread and deepen".

The perceived catastrophe and danger is not the Palestinians, who dominated this month's general election, but the ultra-Orthodox religious groups, which to all intents and purposes won it. The

perceived danger is prompting Mr Shamir to go on trying to form a coalition with the Labour Party, even though its leaders have told him there is now no basis for any discussion. The Prime Minister is said to be taking very seriously the warning that a coalition with the religious parties would create a rift between Israel and world Jewry.

### ● This coalition will create a rift with the world's Jewry ●

which would both smash donations to the country and seriously weaken the resolve of the powerful Jewish lobby around the world.

Ever since it became clear that the next Israeli government could

well depend on the support of religious groups intent on using legislation to protect ultra-Orthodox Judaism, Jews internationally have been warning of the consequences while the majority of Israelis are bracing themselves to live with laws that will restrict their present freedoms.

Jewish federations in the United States are collecting a million signatures on petitions opposed to proposed religious laws, which they mean to deliver to the Knesset (Parliament) next Wednesday. The petitions warn that the changes would inflict "deep symbolic wounds from this insult to our religious traditions and sense of peoplehood".

The Rabbinical Council of America, the largest rabbinical

Orthodox organization, has called Mr Shamir to signal its opposition to changes in the law. An anonymous group of wealthy American Jews has asked the State Department to cut aid to Israel if the laws are passed. European Jews are to meet this weekend in Geneva to co-ordinate their protests.

But while Mr Shamir is clearly shaken by this onslaught, the religious parties in the eye of the storm are quietly preparing to join the Government that they know can stay in power only if it does what they tell it. Thirteen seats are now held by non-Zionist parties, who put their view of Judaism above national priorities. The dead-end result of the election means that any of the four religious parties can bring down

the Government if it does not get its way, and the internal rivalries between them are leading them to keep on increasing their demands for joining.

The four parties are bitterly divided. The NRP, the traditional religious party, has won only five seats and that probably only because it has recently thrown out its old moderate Western Jewish leadership for a more radical Oriental one.

The other three parties are all anti-Zionist, but are quite prepared to exploit the Israeli state. The oldest of these is Agudat Yisrael, which once successfully won seats in Poland before the Second World War and which finds its roots in the semi-mystical Hassidic movement of Central

Europe 250 years ago. Among its beliefs, born of a need to justify the Jewish exile, is the view that the Jewish people must remain where they are in preparation for the fulfilment of the Messianic promise. It won five seats.

Agudat's arch-rival is Shas, a new party which won six seats, making it the third largest after

### ● Any religious party can bring down the Government ●

Likud and Labour. Its appeal is to the poor Oriental Jews who feel ignored by the main parties and who believe that religious values are ignored by the state. With the last election, it has a sister party in

Deleg Hatorah, which caters for poor Western Jews and which won two seats.

All four parties are prepared to go into government together rather than be left out while the others win ministries and influence. On top of all their lists for new legislation is a change in the law which defines "who is a Jew" for the purposes of Israeli nationality. They all insist that only those converted according to Halachic law can qualify, which means that two-thirds of the Jews in the rest of the world would not be recognized in Israel. This is a potential division in world Jewry which leaders of the main parties here consider is a bigger threat now to national security than the Palestinians.

## New EEC car laws put £150 on costs

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

EEC environment ministers yesterday gave their final seal of approval to long-standing proposals by the European Commission designed to reduce by half the level of exhaust emissions from all new small cars sold in the Community from 1993.

Under the car emissions directive — agreed in principle at Luxembourg in June — all

new vehicles with an engine capacity of less than 1,400 cc will have to be fitted with special exhaust equipment, known as a catalytic converter, which is capable of changing toxic hydrocarbon, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides into less harmful gases.

The agreement, which will cost British motorists about

£850 million a year and put an estimated £150 on the showroom cost of a new small car, was carried on a majority vote — with the enthusiastic support of Britain.

But Holland, Denmark, and Greece voted against the measure on the grounds that it did not go far enough. All three countries wanted the Community to adopt US exhaust

emission standards which are a third less than those currently permitted by Brussels.

Holland also announced its intention to introduce fiscal incentives for consumers prepared to fit the more stringent US-style catalytic converters which would increase the cost of a new small car by some £500, a move opposed by the Commission and Britain.

## Kosovo tense as crucial meeting is put back

From Richard Bassett, Belgrade

Yugoslavia's troubled region of Kosovo remained tense yesterday as the regional leadership postponed an anxiously awaited meeting to determine the fate of two controversial leaders, forced to resign last week under Serbian pressure.

At the same time, there was frenzied toing and froing between Belgrade and Kosovo as security chiefs continued to meet in the Kosovo capital, Pristina.

A ban was imposed late on Wednesday night on all public demonstrations in the province. The postponed meeting was to have decided whether Mrs Jasari Kacusa and Mr Azem Vlassi should be allowed to resign. Demonstrations at the weekend by thou-

sands of Kosovo Albanians had demanded the reinstatement of the two politicians.

It is unlikely, however, that the local leadership can save Mr Vlassi, who has become the principal target of Serbian attacks in recent months.

The genial Mr Vlassi has been consistently singled out by the Serbs at their large rallies where placards grimly

calling for "Death to Vlassi" have rarely been absent.

As far as the Serbs are concerned the 40-year-old Mr Vlassi is the chief culprit for all their problems, from economic collapse to the harassment of Serbian farmers in Kosovo by Albanian "separatists". They demanded his resignation at last month's Central Committee plenum.

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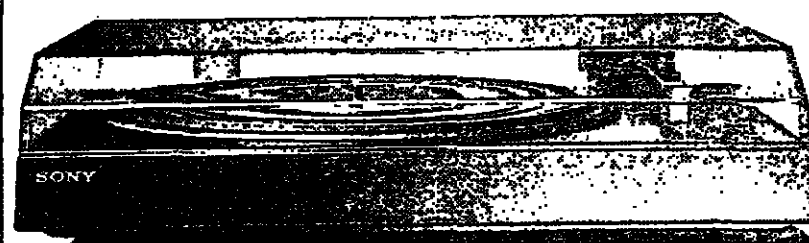
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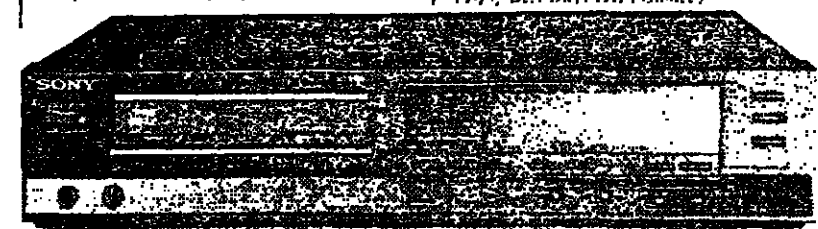
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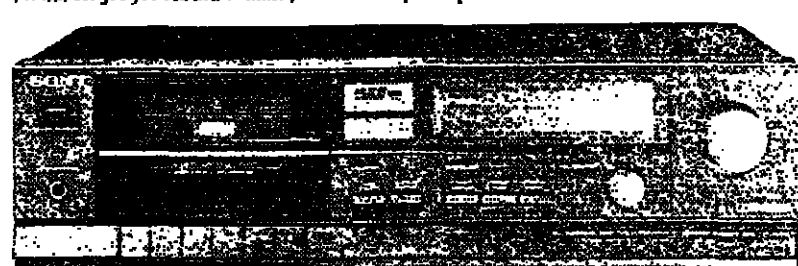


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## New lease of life for anti-hanging lobby

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a textured, cylindrical object, possibly a piece of wood or a container, showing horizontal grain or bands. The image is heavily stylized with high contrast, resulting in a loss of mid-tones and a grainy, almost abstract appearance. The object is oriented vertically, with the top edge visible at the top of the frame. The texture is characterized by dark, horizontal bands or grain patterns against a lighter background. The overall effect is dramatic and graphic.



## Madrid nervous at evidence of official death squad links

From Philip Jacobson, Madrid

In a prison cell in the town of Guadalajara, half an hour's drive north of Madrid, a Spanish police officer accused of running the death squads that murdered at least 25 Basque refugees on French soil is watching the net slowly closing around him.

Superintendent José Amedo, aged 43, late of the Pure Intelligence Squad in Bilbao, was put behind bars last July by an independently minded judge determined to establish whether he should face formal charges.

Evidence linking Superintendent Amedo to the killings of exiled members or supporters of the Basque Euzkadi separatist network between 1983 and 1986 is piling up on Judge Baltasar Garçon's desk. But one crucial question — which is attracting as much interest in French government circles as in Madrid — remains to be answered. Was the Socialist Government of Señor Felipe González involved, directly or otherwise, in organizing and financing the teams of common criminals sent across the border into France to plant car bombs and ambush suspected members of Eta in the name of a shadowy organization, known as GAL (Grupo Antiterrorista de Liberación)?

This week, discussing co-operation against terrorism at his meeting with President Mitterrand, Señor González publicly acknowledged for the first time that GAL's activities could rebound against his

Government. In a democracy like Spain, he observed, "there are some methods we simply cannot use, even when Eta declares it is at war with us."

There would never be official protection for illegal acts committed by people "who are themselves terrorists".

Over in the heart of the French Basque country, a senior magistrate in Bayonne has been digging away at the GAL killings with the same determination as his Spanish opposite number. It is almost six months since M Armand

Madrid — One of the leaders of the attempted coup of 1981, the ailing former general, Luis Torres Rojas, was paroled here yesterday after serving less than seven years of his 12-year sentence (Harry Debelius writes). A judge in the north-western city of Coruna ruled that Rojas, now in his 70s and suffering from an incurable disease, met the conditions for release applicable to inmates of military prisons.

Riberolles decided that the case against Superintendent Amedo justified issuing an international warrant for his arrest and extradition on charges involving crimes committed within France.

In the light of depositions taken from captured, and subsequently convicted, GAL assassins — mostly recruited from the French and Portuguese underworld — the

French authorities are convinced beyond doubt that this relatively lowly policeman from Bilbao was part of a larger clandestine campaign against Eta targets in exile. Fresh evidence that at least one of Superintendent Amedo's trips abroad, apparently to recruit the hit teams, was paid for from the Spanish Interior Ministry's "reserve fund" have strengthened this view in Paris.

From the start of an affair that is now coming uncomfortably close to home, the Spanish Government has refused to say a word about that special fund.

Without the intervention of Judge Garçon in the wake of a series of well-documented investigations by the newspaper *Diario 16*, it is extremely unlikely that Superintendent Amedo's habitual round of the night clubs and casinos in Bilbao would ever have been interrupted. One of the most damaging of the newspaper's revelations was that the French were convinced false identity papers carried by apprehended GAL operatives originated from Bilbao police.

A week ago, *Diario 16* took the Amedo case significantly closer to the Spanish Government's door with a report claiming that he had formerly been in frequent contact with Spain's Central Police Intelligence Service and had been taken from his cell to a meeting with the Minister of the Interior earlier this month.

## Malaysians take to boats in floods



Malaysian flood victims at Kota Bharu, in the north-eastern state of Kelantan, paddling down an inundated street yesterday after massive monsoon rains struck the coast, killing at least 25 people and forcing tens of thousands to flee from

their homes. There was widespread devastation from the storms in South-East Asia, with Thailand the worst affected nation (Our Foreign Staff writes). Mudslides and floods caused a wave of death and destruction throughout

the south of the country, and more than 140 people were buried alive or drowned, provincial officials said. The flooding halted the train service between Butterworth, 180 miles north-east of Kuala Lumpur, and Bangkok.

## Girl is hurled 4 floors and lives

Rome (AP) — A girl aged six survived after being thrown from a fourth-floor window by a man who had murdered her mother and then leapt to his own death.

Police said that Walter Falsone, aged 32, had stabbed his girlfriend, Tiziana Bonacquisti, aged 27, to death over her plans to end their relationship.

Falsone, who also had stab wounds, died instantly when he hit the pavement, but the child's fall was broken when she landed on a telephone repairman, police said.

## Orchids raid

Taipei (AFP) — Two security guards were injured when thieves with machine-guns stole 24 potted orchids worth \$1.5 million from a Taiwan greenhouse, police said.

## Beal attack

Sour (AFP) — A boy, aged nine, who tried to put a bear through the bars at a zoo here is in a critical condition after the bear bit off part of his arm.

## Sudan deaths

Khartoum (Reuters) — At least 133 people were killed and 37 villages burnt in a new surge of lawlessness in Sudan's western Darfur region, the official Sudan News Agency reported.

## Nazi appeal

Jerusalem (Reuters) — Israel's Supreme Court will hear an appeal on December 5 by convicted Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk, sentenced to death in April for atrocities

## 17 die in Philippines chapel slaughter

From Humphrey Hawksley, Manila

The Philippines military flew troops to a remote mountain area south of Manila yesterday after gunmen murdered 17 villagers in a private chapel on the central island of Cebu.

A witness, Mr Jose Canelio, aged 27, said many people carried out the attack. He added: "The shooting continued for a long time... when it ended, we got up. They were gone... there was much moaning."

His wife, Eleanita, told how the chapel filled with smoke. She said: "I gathered my two

children and covered them with my body when the shooting broke out. I did not know both were already hit."

One child was grazed on the head by a bullet. The other received an arm injury.

The massacre happened early on Tuesday evening, but because the village, Sumbag, was two hours' walk from the nearest town, reports of the murder reached Manila only yesterday.

Gunmen, several in fatigues, surrounded the chapel after dark and opened fire with automatic weapons. Villagers, who were alerted by

barking dogs and ran out as the men approached, were shot dead. The military has blamed the communist New People's Army. The chapel was owned by a wealthy landlord, and in the past guerrillas have murdered churchworkers believed to be helping the authorities. Four have been pastors from the Baptist Church, which has links with the Moral Majority movement in the United States and often preaches anti-communist sermons.

But this attack was on the Roman Catholic Chapel of the Miraculous Virgin, and up to

50 people were inside saying the rosary when the firing started. Several of the survivors said that anti-communist groups had warned the village against sympathizing with the insurgents.

The Government, despite criticism from human rights groups, encourages the formation of vigilante groups, although it recently announced extra controls, with more thorough training. But the Philippines has many fanatical religious cults operating outside the law and they are sanctioned by provincial military commanders.

## Colombo extends emergency as killings rise

From Vijitha Yapa in Colombo

Sinhala Marxist "subversives" and Tamil guerrillas killed 233 people in the month ending November 16, Mr Vincent Perera, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, announced in the Sri Lanka Parliament yesterday.

More than 70 others have been reported killed in the past week, pushing the total beyond 300 killings in the island during the past 40 days.

Parliament approved overwhelmingly a request by

Mr Perera to extend the state of emergency by one month.

The main opposition party, Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike's SLFP, and the Socialist MEP are boycotting Parliament.

In the south, the Government is battling Marxist rebels of the JVP (People's Liberation Front) who want the Government to resign and scrap a controversial accord with India giving more autonomy to the minority Tamils, while in the north and east

50,000 Indian troops are fighting the Tamil guerrillas who want a separate state called Eelam.

A new dimension has appeared in the violent campaign with the killing of three foreigners in a raid, allegedly by the JVP, on a sugar factory in south-east Sri Lanka on Wednesday night. An Indian executive of the Moneragala Sugar factory, his wife, the wife of another Indian executive and a Sinhala executive,

were killed when some 25 rebels in military uniform opened fire after entering the staff quarters. The sugar factory is close to where a British company, Booker International, is involved in a large sugar cane project.

Mrs Bandaranaike's SLFP signed an agreement yesterday with the Liberal Party, the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress and the Socialist MEP to form a joint alliance with a common programme.

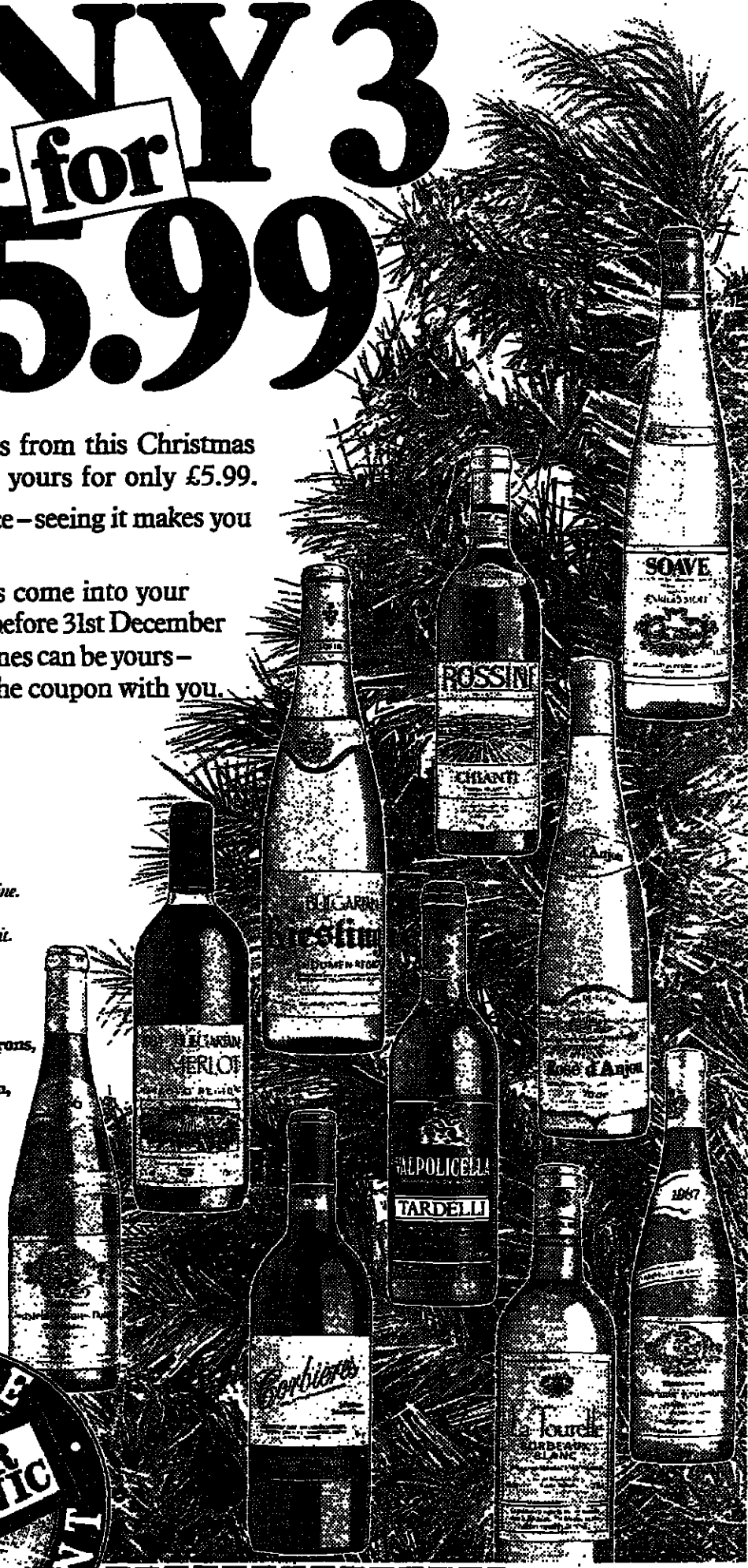
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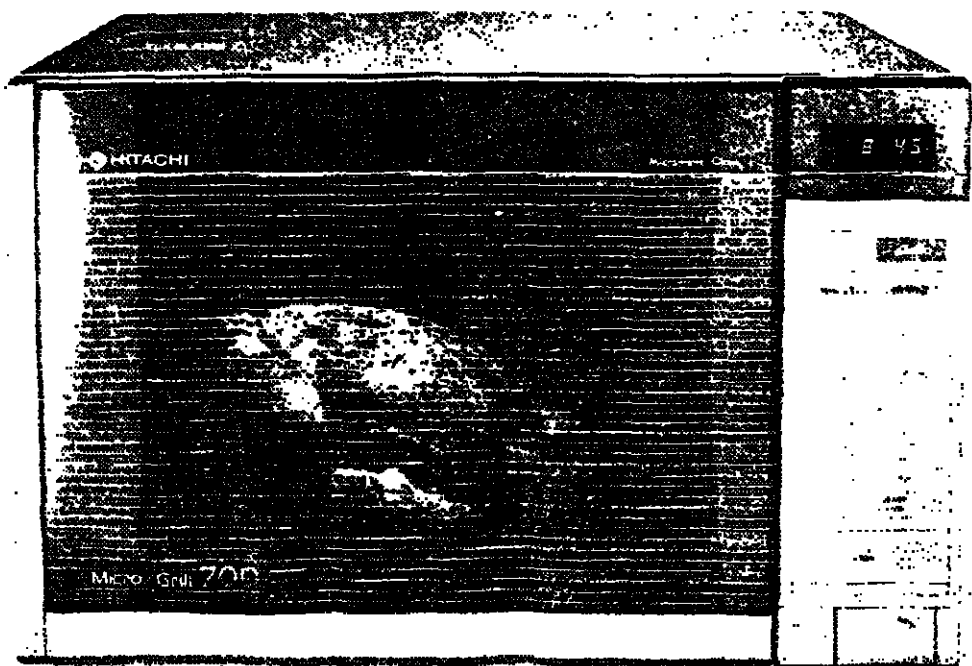
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the traffic jams

Fifteen months ago, Geoff Watchorn swapped his second-hand Mercedes for a two-seat helicopter and revolutionized his working life. Instead of spending three to four hours a day in traffic jams, it now takes him 20 minutes to travel from his home near Guildford, Surrey, to his plastics laminating business in south-west London.

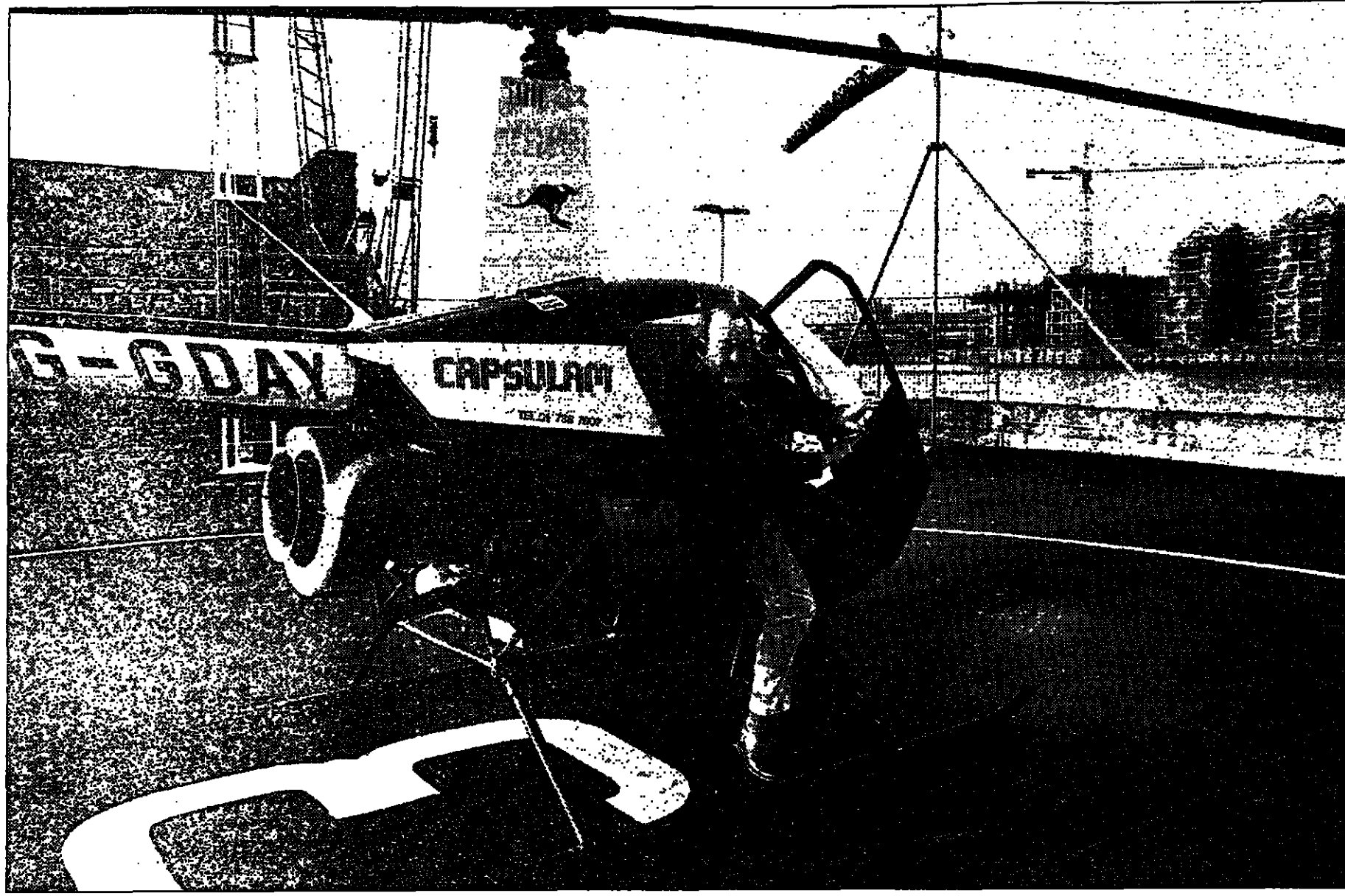
"Commuting by helicopter saves me time, eliminates aggravation and my wife reckons it has saved our marriage," he says. "I used to come home absolutely knackered and just collapse in front of the television or go to bed. Now I arrive back feeling fine and ready for the evening."

Watchorn, aged 44, is one of a growing band of super-commuters who have taken to the air in an effort to remove the increasingly stressful business of getting to work. They include the wealthy and celebrated, such as the television personality Noel Edmonds, but there are also a surprising number of businessmen who regard their time and peace of mind as invaluable assets in both their personal and professional lives.

"We're basically talking about busy people who work hard and are fed up with wasting their time travelling by road," says David Dixon, sales director of Sloane Helicopters. The company is one of 14 distributors and 28 training establishments in Britain, and specializes in the "affordable" £70,000 single-engine Robinson R22 helicopter. Dixon has sold 56 Robinsons so far this year "to everyone from accountants to property developers and from farmers to solicitors".

He says there are "a few" qualified women helicopter pilots and the number learning to fly is growing. He has yet to sell a helicopter to a woman — "although two or three have indicated the purchase".

In the year ending last March, the number of private helicopter licence-holders in Britain rose by 30 per cent, including the Duchess of York. Of the 33 different makes of helicopter in Britain — 29 of



Taking the stress out of getting to work: Geoff Watchorn, who swapped his Mercedes for a two-seat Westland helicopter, says "it saves me time, money, and cuts aggravation"

them manufactured overseas — the Canadian single-engine turbine Bell Jet Ranger is the most popular, selling at about £300,000.

At the top end of the corporate market, £2.5 million will buy a Sikorsky S76 with leather seats for up to 14 people, air-conditioning, bar, stereo and fitted carpets. But it is the Californian-built Robinson which has made privately owned helicopters a reality for a new breed of owner/pilot. And the second-hand market is booming.

The purchase of a helicopter is only a part of the overall expense. A minimum of 40 hours' flying experience, at £2,500 to £3,000 (considerably more if you happen to be a slow learner), is necessary for a private pilot's licence. Then there are the running expenses. Dixon says it costs about £50 an hour in a Robinson, based on 200 hours' flying a year and including depreciation, insurance, servicing

and operating costs. But since a helicopter cruises at more than 100 miles an hour, he insists that the running costs compare favourably with those of an up-market car.

Watchorn estimates that it costs him about 10 per cent more per mile to run his helicopter than it did his Mercedes. A 5,000-mile service costs £125, "less than most cars", he says, "and, unlike cars, helicopters maintain their value". He spent £2,700 learning to fly in five weeks. "The first 15 hours are difficult," he says. "But once you've got it, you've got it forever."

He keeps his two-seat Robinson in a shed in the back garden of his 16th-century farmhouse and, in London, pays £10 a day to park it at Westland Helicopters in Battersea. From there he travels to his office-cum-factory on a Honda 50cc scooter.

It is a big source of discontent among helicopter enthusiasts that Westland is the only public heliport in London. While Tokyo has 30 heliports and Paris has nine, London is still only planning a second one. "We are a bit concerned about what is going to happen in 1992," says Paul Durrant, chief executive of the British Helicopter Advisory Board.

He says: "The London scene is fairly fraught; Westland is full and we're trying to get other landing sites elsewhere. One is being planned in the City and we would like to see something on the Isle of Dogs. What we want is a network of recognized heliports around the country."

The board has a list of more than 200 heliports scattered around Britain, most of them

privately owned by hotels. Some are open to the public.

"From our point of view," Durrant says, "London is where the money is, because that's where the traffic problems are. It's very much a south-east pastime. Once you get up to the Pennines, the weather is not that good."

Test pilot Geoff Holder, who is in charge of research and development for European Helicopters, believes that the future lies in rooftop heliports, an idea which originated in America.

"While ground is very expensive, the roof of a building is effectively free," he says. "The height of the building provides a measure of safety and takes the environmental nuisance away from the man in the street."

There are three rooftop heliports in central London, including the one used by publisher Robert

Maxwell in Holborn Circus. Apart from the necessary strength of the building, there are restrictions on wind direction and neighbourhood annoyance. For safety reasons, only twin-engine helicopters may land on rooftops or fly over densely-populated areas. In London, single-engine models may only fly along the Thames.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) advises the filing of a flight plan for helicopters travelling over water. But there is no mandatory obligation for helicopter pilots to file flight routes and few landing restrictions. "Basically, if you own a private helicopter and can land it safely, you can land it," says the CAA.

There is the occasional accident due to engine or mechanical failure, "but helicopters, particularly light ones, have a pretty good record", Durrant says. In 1986,

the most recent figures recorded by the CAA, there were 13 reported private helicopter accidents, of which one was fatal, during an estimated 76,000 flying hours. (In the same year, there were 161 reported private light aircraft accidents, of which 12 were fatal, during an estimated 476,000 flying hours.)

Despite the helicopter's growing popularity, the CAA is not too concerned about the potential for heli-jams and heli-congestion. "I think it very unlikely," says a spokesman. "It's an extremely expensive form of transport, not just to buy but to run. It's more expensive to run than a fixed-wing aircraft, because you've got to keep the rotors turning to keep it in the air as well as keeping it going forward."

Durrant agrees. "As far as the commuter is concerned, there are practical difficulties, such as sudden bad weather or having to spend about 15 minutes checking the helicopter before you take off in the morning. It's a different pressure from travelling by car."

"On a lovely summer's morning it's a great way to go to work, being able to look down on everybody stuck in a traffic jam below. But it's not quite the same as leaving into your car and taking off down the road. There's a lot of truth in the old adage: 'If you've time to spare, go by air.'"

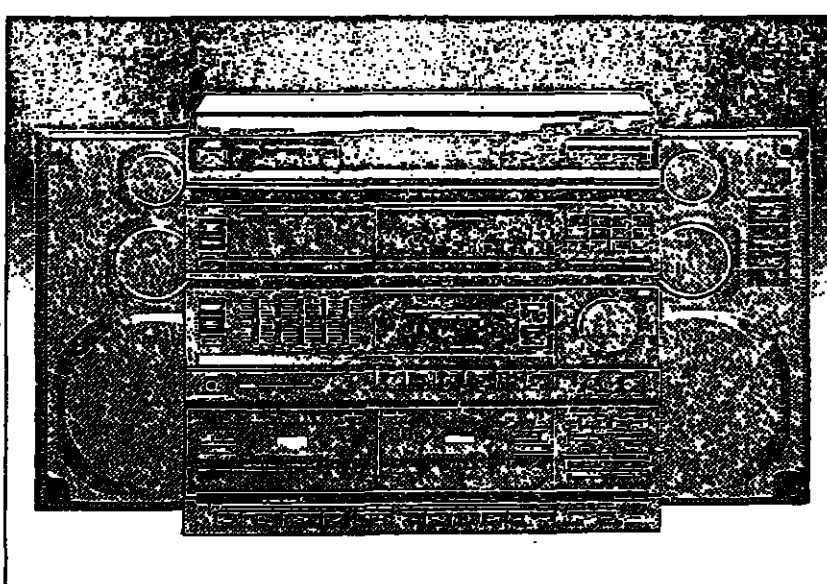
Watchorn, who spends "two or three minutes each morning checking the oil and making sure that everything is still stuck together", does not agree. He reckons that bad weather has prevented him from flying to work about 20 times in 15 months. But he adds: "I have entirely cut out the aggravation. I'm fitter because I'm not sitting in a motor car for so long. And I'm saving about three hours a day in travelling time — and time means money."

Environmentalists are worried about noise pollution, particularly during take-off and landing, but Durrant compares the volume to a 150cc motor bike. The British Helicopter Advisory Board recommends that pilots fly as high as possible, reach airborne height quickly and avoid densely populated areas.

But it would seem that helicopter enthusiasts are caring people. The board's eight-point pilot's code of conduct includes the salutary advice: "Always take time to talk to interested parties about helicopters: little boys, old ladies, policemen, politicians, or whoever is curious. If they have the time and courtesy to ask, pilots should respond in kind. Remember you were once a little boy (sic) yourself."

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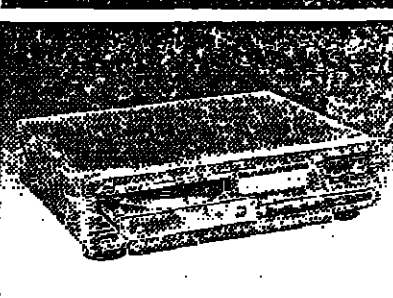
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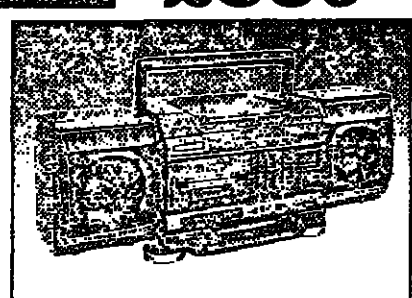
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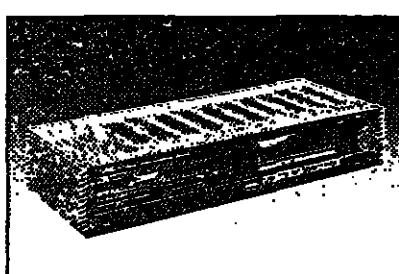
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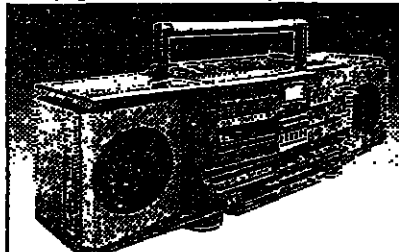
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The man who runs the department of manufacturing systems at Warwick University is Professor Kumar Bhattacharya. It is not only those unable to pronounce his name who refer to him as "The Battery Charger" — for the courses over which he presides are instilling fresh energy into the skills of industrial management, and not before time.

He is one of Britain's leading proponents of the "cell system" of production, whereby the traditional line is replaced by a number of individual units, each one with its own management structure and accountability. Professor Bhattacharya addresses his courses to the growing number of supervisors who promise to be the face of tomorrow's middle and senior management.

Already Austin Rover is using the cell system to produce the Rover 800 at Cowley and next year it intends to establish a more ambitious version of the same at a greenfield site at Longbridge for the manufacture of the R8.

One example of a young graduate who has already attained considerable responsibility within a cellular system of production is 27-year-old Hilary Briggs.

With a degree in production engineering from Cambridge and a masters degree in manufacturing systems engineering from Warwick, she is one of seven superintendents in charge of the Rover 800 production at Cowley. (She is also the only woman of the seven.) She has two foremen, 72 operators and two support engineers in her unit.

"Most of the others in my position have worked their way up," she concedes. "I may have more qualifications, but they have greater experience. The experience of this has been invaluable. The important thing about a cell system seems to me to be that each part has direct control over its own resources."

Professor Bhattacharya adds: "Another important aspect of this method is that it is British. This is one area in which the Japanese are following us, rather than the other way round."

## Bright spark

A Warwick University professor is giving British management a boost

The Battery Charger and his colleagues are now working in conjunction with a "club" of major British companies, including British Aerospace, Plessey, Short Brothers and Rolls-Royce, to ensure that the teaching of manufacturing systems is geared to the specific and rapidly changing needs of the companies.

The essence of the cell system design is to eliminate waste and inefficiency by producing and supplying its product to the next link in the chain as and when it is needed. Each manager is responsible for the quality of what his workforce turns out, and for liaison with the other cells.

At present Warwick has 450 students who are attached to

companies and who will work for them full-time after graduating, plus a further 1,000 members of middle management on day release courses.

"While there are good recruits about, the companies must train them up properly, or else they'll lose them," Bhattacharya says. "They are the seed corn of top company management. It is our job at the universities to open up more management possibilities, to ensure that technocrats are identified and given the proper career prospects."

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## Stately saunas of England

"There have to be some opportunities for the nouveau riche," Mr Nicholas Ridley declared on Tuesday. He then announced that there would be no more state aid to allow impoverished aristocrats to stay in their family seats.

A great wave of *nouveaux riches* stately home buying is expected. Already, the National Association of Disgracefully Common Stately Home Owners has announced the very first opening of a *nouveaux riche* Stately Home to the general public, "though my hubby and yours truly prefer to call it a bumper-size luxury maisonette," says owner Mrs Norma Norman, second wife and one-time secretary of Conservative minister the Rt Hon Norman Cecil-Norman.

While her husband is engaged in the difficult task of steering the controversial Sea, Beaches and Surrounding Areas (Privatization) Bill through the committee stage, Mrs Norman is overseeing up to 500 tourists a day visiting the recently renamed "Chateau Norma". "Old antiques are out," she explains. "I mean, honestly, talk about dust traps! Instead, we've knocked down a lot of the old

walls and purchased some brand new exhibits — highly costly, I can tell you — lending a pleasing 'Scandinavian chalet-style effect.'"

Trained guides in fluorescent orange costumes ("to match the new velveteen wallpaper") begin the tour beside a portrait of the Rt Hon Norman and Mrs Norman Cecil-Norman, in the style of Gainsborough's "Mr and Mrs Andrews". "Observe the young marrieds sitting in the shade of a recently planted and highly profitable conifer, which, on current estimate, should yield a 500 per cent profit margin when chopped down in three years," begins the guide. "And appreciate the sunlight glinting on the family Porsche: close up, you can see every little detail of the personalized number plate. A word or two about the Porsche. The very latest in luxury motoring, it is fitted with full cellular-telephone facilities,

and the most up-to-the-minute CD hi-fi. To the right of the background can be seen the new Solarium and Health Centre extension, lending a refreshingly modern air to an otherwise sadly old-fashioned home."

Visitors are escorted past a full-colour signed photograph of Mrs Margaret Thatcher opening the new Chateau Norma tourist shop, with the family motto *Eme bene, pretiose vende* ("Buy low, sell high") emblazoned on a selection of labour-saving devices, including pocket calculators and microwave ovens, all marketed at highly competitive prices. They then arrive at the old ballroom, which has been tastefully converted into a hot-tub-cum-sauna, with an extensive home bar. "Note the gold fittings on the luxury circular sunken bath," says the guide, "and visitors might care to photograph the His'n'Heirs' luxury monogrammed towelling robes."

And so to the "extensively refurbished" kitchen-dinette. "When the Cecil-Normans bought the house from old Lord and Lady Pauper — who now live in a treehouse at the end of the drive and may continue to do so until such time as the tree is uprooted to meet the demands of the rapidly-expanding oak finish market — the kitchen was dreadfully old," the guide continues, "but the new owners have spent well over £20,000 on a fabulous new Olde-Worlde-style fitted kitchen."

Lord and Lady Pauper's old library ("Books! Books! Books!") complains Mrs Norman. "Who wants a library full of just books in this day and age?" now contains one of the largest video collections in the country, while the rest of the room is set aside for cabinets containing the very latest in consumer durables, including a case of personalized Rolexes, 20 fax machines, and a new device from Japan to allow change to be jangled in the executive pocket without using your hand. "At last, the stately home has been brought kicking and screaming into the 21st century," declares a delighted Mr Ridley.



CRAIG BROWN



## FRIDAY PAGE

## A degree of respect?

**M**ention sexual harassment to anyone in the quads of Oxford University and you are likely to be greeted with a frozen stare, as if you had shaken an unsightly skeleton from the university closet.

The case of a don at Pembroke College who is alleged to have persistently harassed his female students was publicized by *Cherwell*, the university newspaper, earlier this year. Former students told of his frequently enjoining sexual favours and that he persuaded one woman who had become pregnant by him to have an abortion. The day after, he sent her a bunch of roses.

While no one would claim that such Victorian melodramas are commonplace at Oxford, many female undergraduates say privately that they are familiar with the problem. This year, a working party was set up to examine the incidence of sexual harassment and decide how to tackle it. This week, it completed its report and its recommendations will be submitted to the university's central hebdomadal council in January.

Oxford has always held itself aloof from the salacious intrigues of breeze-block seminar rooms; that sexual harassment also exists within the oak-panelled rooms of ancient colleges has come as an unpleasant shock to the university authorities.

What veils such problems in Oxford is the close bonding produced by small tutorial groups and intimate social contact in college between tutors and students. Students say this loyalty has been exploited by a minority of dons for some years. Only now, under the strain of Pembroke's publicity, has it broken down.

At the moment, most colleges rely on the problem being taken to a sympathetic woman tutor who can refer the matter to the head of the college. A stern talking to is the usual measure taken, although the head of a college has the power to remove the don from teaching if the offence is considered serious enough. The problem at Pembroke college is that there is no female don.

Sir John Walton, Warden of Green College and president of the General Medical Council, is chairman of the Oxford working party. He acknowledges the difficulties in formulating a document acceptable to all shades of opinion on this subject. Some women members of the working party even felt that enshrining the protection of women was belittling itself.

"It was jolly difficult to combine so many disparate views and there has been some heated debate over the past weeks," he says.

Wadham College is one of a handful of colleges to have piloted its own code of conduct since October in response to demands by female students for a public commitment by the college to tackling harassment. The resulting document consists of a set of procedures through which a complaint against a tutor or undergraduate can proceed. The document is not distributed to undergraduates, it is only available as a reference.

It concludes rather lamely: "The Warden will consider what remedy is necessary for the complaint's reassurance, protection or academic progress."

Ray Ockenden, the college's sociable German don, admits that there was "a brief period of self-consciousness and uneasy jokes" among male tutors when the code was introduced but, "we have since lapsed back into common sense".

**T**he university's famed one-to-one teaching ratio can also lead to uneasy situations, says Louise Goss Custard, the undergraduate member of the working party. "Many tutors who studied and taught in mainly male environments do not realize how offensive their behaviour can be. It is quite common for them to touch a woman or sit too close to her while teaching. Many just think they're being fatherly."

Last year's National Union of Students' report following a survey on the extent of harassment was bewildering in its scope. It ranged from "suggestive looks or friendly pats and squeezes" to "leering and ridicule".

Some of Oxford's students and dons believe it needs a code of sexual conduct. Anne McElvoy discovers why

Universities vary widely in their approach to the matter. The London School of Economics led the way to recognizing sexual harassment as a problem by holding a survey four years ago in which more than half the women students said they had experienced some form of harassment while on the premises.

A code of conduct was then distributed to all students, defining sexual harassment as "unsolicited, or unreciprocated sexual attention". Manchester University last year instituted a team of 12

confidential advisers spread across its departments. Its code stresses that sexual harassment can happen to men also, and it is the least tongue-tied in declaring its readiness to dismiss a member of staff who seriously offends against the code.

Oxford's Pembroke College is one of many colleges which is awaiting the recommendations of the university working party before it considers instituting a code of conduct. Matthew Coot, the JCR president, says the college has been "complacent and defensive" about the revelations of harassment by one of its dons. "The allegations were never openly examined and the details have been hushed up as much as possible."

One former Pembroke student said: "The atmosphere in the tutorial group was incredibly tense and inflammatory. Our tutor used cruel emotional tactics to play one student off against the other. By the time we left, I was so embroiled in the whole thing that I felt unable to apply to do research at the college, or even to ask him for a reference."

Another spoke of "unremitting tactics of roses and bad

poetry, sent to a string of women, followed by humiliation or threats if they did not comply with his demands".

Pembroke's tutor is no longer teaching. The autonomous nature of Oxford's collegiate system means that even if the recommendations are passed centrally by January's meeting of hebdomadal council, they must be voted on by the colleges individually.

**L**ouise Goss Custard believes that it would be "politically unacceptable" for any college to refuse its recommendations.

Not all of the university's undergraduates share her optimism. "The liberal reputation of this university is belied by the attitude of a lot of men - undergraduates and dons alike," says Wadham's women's officer Sarah Perman.

Just last week, the drunken football team at nearby college broke into a woman student's room in the middle of the night and carried her shoulder high and screaming in fear around the front quad. "Oxford may have admitted women, but it is still a man's university."



Looking at harassment: Louise Goss Custard, student member of Oxford's working party

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## Saint Joan?

The story of Joan Andrews is a peculiarly American one, I think. On March 28, 1986, after informing the police and staff members of her intentions, Miss Andrews entered an abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida and tried, unsuccessfully, to mangle a suction machine. Sentencing was deferred but Miss Andrews was unrepentant. "I couldn't promise not to save a child's life," she told Judge William Anderson. "To me that's scandalous."

Nor could Miss Andrews promise to co-operate with the gaol authorities, whom she saw as part of the system that condemned murder of the " unborn". The state of Florida was unimpressed with her piety and demanded that she promise not to trespass or picket clinics again. When she refused, Miss Andrews was sentenced to five years in gaol and was transferred to Broward Correctional Institute, the only maximum security prison for women in Florida. She spent 13 months in solitary confinement there and was denied mass for 19 months. What, I wondered, does the decent society do with a Miss Andrews?

The two sides to this dispute are pretty clear, of course. The courts have a law on their hands which they have sworn to uphold. Abortion is a legal procedure in the United States and abortion clinics are perfectly lawful. If someone serves notice that they intend to break the law regarding these matters, what can they do but to punish them to the full extent allowed?

From Miss Andrews's point of view - that of a devout Catholic committed to non-violence - the issue is equally as clear. The essential argument of those who happen to feel strongly about a given issue in which their conscience is in conflict with the law is to invoke *Auschwitz*. A little leap is invariably made from this position, in which it is argued that the law should take note of the fact that this is a matter of conscience and therefore should not punish them or not punish them to the full extent of the law or should in fact change the law.

The key to this discussion is an assessment of Miss Andrews's cause and the methods she uses to support it. Some people rely on their conscience to give themselves a licence not only to break the law but to interfere in other people's lives in a most unpleasant way over causes that do not bear the slightest resemblance to *Auschwitz*. They cheerfully plant bombs in Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants



BARBARA AMIEL

ants or spray paint on beaver coats for which their owners have scrimped and saved for two years because they have a certain opinion on the utilization of chickens and beavers.

While I have a personal abhorrence of anyone who trespasses on the private space of other people and would truly prefer Miss Andrews to write leaflets rather than march into the private area of a perfectly legal abortion clinic, I can't dismiss her cause completely. When it comes to a scale between *Auschwitz* and the anti-fur coat crowd - to use two extremes - Miss Andrews's issue stands midway but probably closer to the Holocaust. Most abortions, after all, terminate human lives solely on the basis of convenience, and people who oppose that have good reason, I think, to invoke conscience.

Critics of Miss Andrews have argued that she has a martyr complex. Well, I don't know whether John Osborne was right when he argued that Lutherism derived from Martin Luther's constipation but one of the great miracles of creation is that something ugly may still flower into beauty. All sorts of negative causes from unrequited love to constipation may spur people to embrace martyr complexes. That is why God's plans for the universe are infinitely more intriguing and pose more questions than *Psychology 203* can ever answer. It may be that Miss Andrews, a farm girl from Tennessee who dreamed of marriage but has remained unwed, channelled her unhappiness and frustration into her cause. But when last autumn, the legislature of Massachusetts unanimously passed a motion of commendation for Miss Andrews (who was released on October 20 from prison by the Governor of Florida), I think they had in mind the simple truth that in a society where no one has a martyr complex, evil is sure to triumph.

**W**ith Christmas approaching fast, it's the time of year when we're all out buying Christmas gifts. And at times like these, it's always nice to find a bargain or two.

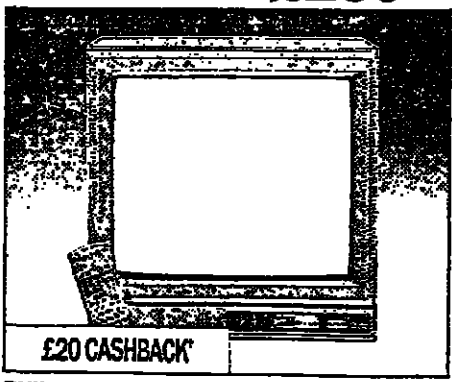
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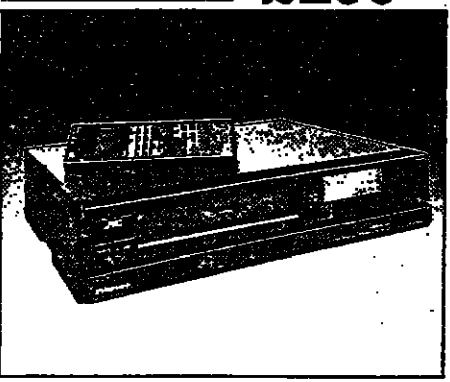
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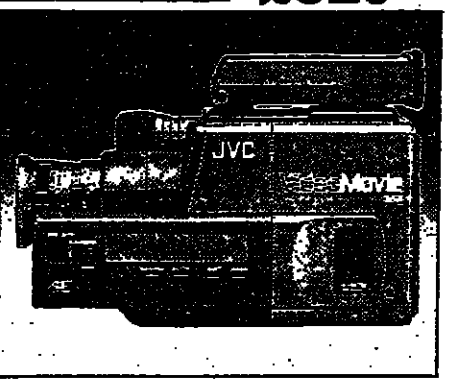
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## TIMES DIARY

MARTIN FLETCHER

Re-election season is here again. Ironically, Labour's growing internal democracy means some left-wing MPs are now in serious danger of being dumped by their local parties. One such is Ken Livingstone, the former GLC leader, who complained bitterly of foul play at Wednesday's national executive meeting, alleging that members of his Brent East party had connived with Terry Ashton, the London party secretary, to ensure that all other re-elections in London were held before his. That would mean him having nowhere else to go if, as is quite possible, he is deselected. Livingstone is not popular among his executive colleagues. They ignored his complaint, but that is not to say it is unfounded. As one commented later: "If they think they'll get away with it, I'm damn sure that's what they'll do."

These national executive meetings are not exactly friendly. Wednesday's main item was Joyce Gould's report on Bermondsey's Militants. Livingstone and Tony Benn cited notorious past instances of M15 giving Labour leaders the names of alleged subversives within the party, clearly implying that M15 might have supplied the names of Militants in this case. Neil Kinnock accused Benn of a "disgraceful" slur. Ms Gould declared: "I have a good mind to consult my solicitors and sue the both of you."

The tourism minister, John Lee, recently made a visit to Israel. Whether he inspired Israelis to holiday here I do not know, but his presence was certainly noticed. The Oriental Souvenir Shop in Jerusalem has just sent him the names, addresses and passport numbers of four Britons who bought goods with a total value of more than £1,500 in 1964, 1969, 1978 and 1982. Their cheques bounced, and the shop wants Lee to track them down.

Norman Tebbit was jeered, abused and spat upon when he visited the North London Polytechnic last week. Unabashed, the poly's Conservative Association has now invited the equally right-wing, pro-Pretoria Tory MP, John Carlisle, to speak on Human Rights in South Africa. Carlisle has accepted — on condition that the polytechnic's director, Leslie Wagner, accompanies him throughout and shares the platform.

Not long ago the Department of the Environment unwittingly listed the gateposts of the Gloucestershire home of its Secretary of State, Nicholas Ridley. Now it has listed a former head of the Home Office, owned by the Home Office minister John Patten. He has no idea why. Maybe it is because the cottage stores a "hereditary pram", successively used by Patten's daughter, the offspring of the overseas development minister, Chris Patten, of the government whip, Tristan Garel-Jones, and of the transport and environment ministers, Peter and Virginia Bottomley.

Conservative MPs are preparing for a classic re-run of the old wet-dry battles of yesterday. Executive elections for the powerful backbench 1922 Committee are imminent. The right is out to remove the present secretary, Michael Mates, for leading the poll-tax rebellion earlier this year, and replace him with Sir Peter Hain. Mates has the support of the soggy Nick's Dining group. Sir Michael is backed by the shadowy 92 Group. The outcome is too close to call.

BARRY FANTONI



'Funny feeling, hoping they'll relieve a few more blacks'

Bob Dunn's dismissal as education minister this summer was probably not unexpected, but his public condemnation of Ridley's "incompetent" rejection of development plans for Dartford North marshes. He is now in dispute with the Transport Secretary, Paul Channon, over the prospect of a Channel tunnel rail link slicing through his Dartford constituency. He is arguing that the money would be better spent on ending eight-mile jams on the M25 at the Dartford tunnel and buying new rolling stock for the Dartford loop line. The carriage is so old, he told Channon, that the graffiti say: "Down with Baldwin."

The National Front is trying to come in from the cold. It is seeking respectability. It yesterday sent political journalists on national newspapers a specially produced 28-page glossy magazine revealing all you ever wanted to know about this most shadowy of organizations. "Never in the history of British politics have so many lies been told about a British political party," it complains. "Never in the history of a free and democratic society have the rights of a political party been so denied by government, media and all the normal channels open to other political parties..."

According to the Court Circular, the Prince of Wales hosted a lunch at Kensington Palace last week for "members of organizations concerned with inner-city housing initiatives". There were three politicians present: Labour's housing spokesman, Clive Soley, the Labour leader of Sheffield council, Clive Betts, and the Labour chairman of Islington housing committee, Maurice Barnes. I am assured that the Prince has had similar lunches involving other parties.

William Wallace defends the Foreign Office against its detractors.

## Don't shoot the diplomat

policy choices has led to persistent contradictions between declared objectives and resources made available to meet them, and a dangerously wide gap between the public presentation of policy and the private conduct of diplomacy — as critics, myself included, have repeatedly argued.

The context for British foreign policy is now changing rapidly. Reductions in the United States budget deficit, which will be fought over between a Democratic Congress and the Bush Administration, are reopening the issue of the levels of American conventional forces in Europe.

The development of Franco-German co-operation in defence and arms procurement has direct implications for Britain, and is now supplemented by opportunities for increased Franco-British defence consultations. The Single European Act and the 1992 programme are transform-

ing the economic and political organization of Western Europe.

The British Government faces a succession of awkward problems and choices over the next five years, including how prospective applications to the European Community from Austria, Turkey, Norway, Malta and others would affect Britain's European interests. Internal developments in Eastern Europe and within the Soviet Union pose further challenges, reflected in the Prime Minister's activism in British-Soviet relations and in her recent visit to Poland.

Britain's involvement in Europe is central to our national interests. More than half of our trade is now conducted with the European Continent. A third of our army is stationed there. The Deutschmark rate now matters at least as much to the Bank of England as the dollar rate. Global diplomacy with Washington and Moscow goes down well with the public, but that

cannot substitute for the hard bargaining of promoting and protecting British interests in European policy-making.

The campaigners of the ideological right are in another world from this. They see Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet as insufficiently loyal to the world view of the American right, and insufficiently hostile to the corporatist and Catholic social doctrines of governments across the English Channel.

They support the Ronald Reagan doctrine of counter-revolution in the Third World and attach particular importance to the "battle against Communism" in Nicaragua. They insist that Renamo deserves our support, as the voice of "freedom" in Mozambique. They fear that the Prime Minister is herself suborned by the smooth talkers of the diplomatic service, and wish to strengthen her resolve by providing an independent group of

right-thinking advisers in 10 Downing Street.

Failing to carry the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the majority of the Conservative Party with their views, they have turned their attacks on the Foreign Office. Disregarding all the evidence of the Prime Minister's robust approach to Foreign Office advice over the past nine years, they see their failure to convince the Government of their views as evidence of conspiracy within Whitehall, rather than of the weakness of their case and its irrelevance to Britain's political and economic interests.

Britain needs a more public and informed debate on foreign policy. Ministers ought to explain far more fully to Parliament the dilemmas which industrial and economic integration within Europe pose for national sovereignty, and for our future relations with France, Germany, Italy and others. They

should admit to the public (as they accept in private) that behind the warmth and emotion of the Anglo-American special relationship the sober calculations of Washington policy-makers indicate that Japan and West Germany matter more to US interests both on economic and on geopolitical grounds. They should distinguish more carefully between the influence our Prime Minister's personal prestige has gained on the global stage and the underlying international position of Britain.

But this is not what the campaigners are fighting for. They seek not a more open debate but a change in personnel and policy-making behind the closed doors of a "presidential-style" government. They want officials who will report not what they see happening in foreign countries but what their masters want to hear, ignoring the uncomfortable realities of the outside world. That would be a disastrous basis for foreign policy.

William Wallace is co-author (with Christopher Tugendhat) of the recent Royal Institute of International Affairs publication, *Options for British Foreign Policy in the 1990s*, and of *The Foreign Policy Process in Britain (1977)*.

Ralf Dahrendorf

## Socialism's honourable exit

Socialism under any name had a miserable decade. In the Third World, plans for a socialist path to development have come to grief from Tanzania to Burma to Jamaica, with Cuba hardly a happy exception. In the countries of really existing socialism, the language of *glasnost* and *perestroika*, even pluralism and individual initiative, is pushing Marxism and its *nomenclatura* to one side. In the OECD world, parties of the traditional left have tended to lose either elections or their socialist creed, and sometimes both. To add insult to injury, the agenda of intellectual debate has shifted away from the predicaments of nearly two centuries.

Who then has triumphed? Mrs Thatcher has triumphed, and Mr Reagan, and Mr González, and Messrs Hawke and Lange, and of course Mr Gorbachov. But their triumphs are tempered by opposition and doubt, in part because, contrary to appearances, they are triumphs without a theory. Socialism has been overcome by the long boom of the 1980s, a surge of (mostly financial) entrepreneurship, and governments on the run from the costly involvements of the 1970s. Some of the winners may even be pleased that they have triumphed without a theory. However, the interested bystander will welcome the fact that the grand old man of economics, Friedrich von Hayek, has now chosen to publish a *summa* politics under the title, *The Fatal Conceit: The Errors of Socialism*.

Hayek wastes no time on the reality of the 1970s, the decade of stagflation and corporatism, or on any other reality for that matter. Nor does he concern himself with those modest theories on which the early opponents of the 1980s "reversal of trends" have wasted so much time: monetarism, the Laffer curve, supply-side economics, *et al.* Inflation had to be fought, and control of the money supply was a part of the battle, even where (as Keynes had suggested before Keynesianism was born). Taxation had come to discourage economic activity to the point of reducing tax revenue: thus tax reform was on the agenda in most countries.

Schumpeter's "entrepreneur" regarded his (and at last, sometimes her) rights place in the scheme of things, encouraged by deregulation, privatization and a prevailing mood of Guizotism: *Enrichissez-vous, messieurs!*

Hayek does not bother with these minor issues save to chastise intellectuals for making fun of them, but instead turns straight to the heart of the matter. Socialism, Hayek argues, is wrong. It is not just morally or politically wrong, but "wrong about the facts". For him, socialism has three main features: a "distribution of income conforming to certain moral principles", "giving a central authority the power to direct the use of available resources", and "the abolition of individual ownership of means of production".

I wish he had said that these prescriptions do not work, but Hayek insists that they are wrong as a matter of fact. Survival and prosperity can be guaranteed only by an "extended order" that combines abstract rules of conduct with spontaneous, self-interested individual action. The belief that "man is able to shape the world around him according to his wishes" is not just "conceit", but it is fatal, because it leads in effect to impoverishment and it even threatens survival.

Life (according to Hayek) is about survival and prosperity. This is brought about by growth. Growth requires confidence in "natural, spontaneous and self-ordering processes". This means above all that we must not interfere in processes of growth by prescribing goals or creating agencies for running things. The motive forces of growth are individual interests which are constrained by formal rules of competition rather than substantive rules of fairness. The morality of the market is in line with the facts of life, whereas the morality of various concepts of justice is not. Hayek is a ruthless theorist who does not worry about taking his argument to absurd lengths. If socialism threatens survival, then capitalism, the market, promotes not only economic growth but also population growth. A good thing, he believes, for never has the growth of population made those who were already prosperous poorer, whereas the new poor grow into a world of great opportunities. "We can be few and savage, or many and civilized." Friedrich von Hayek is as old as the century. He has been a defender of liberty throughout his long life. He is justly revered by many in East and West. Has he forgotten how savage the many can be on our overpopulated globe? The market is a fine idea, but the reality of history shows a messier picture, and for liberty that may not be all bad. For one thing, some of the most spectacular growth stories — Germany,



Japan, South Korea, Taiwan — have little to do with "natural, spontaneous and self-ordering processes". The German banks, or Japan's MITI, do not mind hiding behind the beautiful idea of the market, but the fact that their hand is often invisible does not mean that it does not exist. It may be that the purest of pure markets would have spared the world some of the problems that we have faced and are facing today. But as it is, unemployment in Europe and poverty in the United States, are becoming more persistent as the 1980s boom peters out, and require at the very least the intervention of "social entrepreneurs" like the Prince of

Wales or the Ford Foundation. This raises another topical issue of the late 1980s to which Hayek addresses himself. Mr Reagan had a special animus (which his successor has adopted for the time being) against what he called the "big L" or "the dreaded L-word": liberalism. Hayek happily tries to resurrect an older notion of the word, but in the process follows Mrs Thatcher's aversion for the "big S", the "dreaded S-word": society. For him too, there is no such thing as society, that "makeshift phrase people resort to when they do not quite know what they are talking about", and thus he applies "the self-denying ordinance

never to use the words 'society' or 'social'". The individual appears, of course, and also words like moral, or economic, and a vicious attack on the many uses of "social" in dictionaries and in everyday language. A little more precision in the use of words certainly cannot do any harm. There has also been an unfortunate tendency to personify society ("it is all society's fault"). But in the context of the anti-socialist theory of the 1980s something else has happened, in that the notion of civil society has disappeared along with the "dreaded S-word". Yet it is the usefulness of civil society, of the interplay of organizations and institutions, which helps us steer the precarious course of liberty between the naked interest of individuals and the naked power of governments. Both the S-word and the L-word need new definition, but neither is dispensable. It is probably true that socialism has had its day. This means, however, that it did have its day; that there were times and places where at least some of its versions were appropriate and beneficial. It is probably also true that the entrepreneurial 1980s have brought new opportunities of liberty. Hayek provides an intellectual underpinning to this decade of growth without shame. But his view of man and (dare I say it) society is in the end curiously passive. The facts of life for him are natural and lead to a desirable evolution if only they are left alone. This invitation to do nothing not only opens the door for malevolent dictators, but also underestimates the potential of strategic changes which are not based on the fatal conceit that we can impose our comprehensive view on a recalcitrant world. Instead of staring at systems of total plans or pure markets we should remember Karl Popper's prescription: we try, we err, and we try again, and in that way we give history meaning. The author is warden of St Antony's College, Oxford. *The Fatal Conceit: The Errors of Socialism*, by F.A. Hayek, is published by Routledge (£25).

Commentary • JULIAN AMERY

## The other Ulster solution

Ireland — North and South — became an integral part of the United Kingdom after the Act of Union of 1801. Like Scotland and Wales it sent representatives to Westminster. Many of them held high office in different governments. In 1920 the Lloyd George coalition accepted Home Rule for the South of Ireland.

What was to happen to the six counties in the North? The Conservative ministers wanted them to stay integrated with the rest of the United Kingdom. Carson and Craig, the Ulster Unionist leaders, pleaded for this. The Liberal ministers, however, wanted to keep the door open for the North to join the South. They knew, after the Curragh Mutiny, that the North could not be coerced. But they hoped that, if the North was given its own Home Rule, the two bits might come together through an All-Ireland Council.

Stormont was thus a compromise. The Conservatives bought it because Ulster continued to be represented at Westminster. The Liberals saw it as half-way to a united Ireland. Like many things "Irish" the result was paradoxical. It led to the opposite of what the Liberals intended, and established a Protestant Unionist hegemony over the province for half a century. Stormont maintained law and order in the North while civil war raged in the South. It secured the Ulster ports and airbases in the Second World War. Without them we could not have won the battle of the Atlantic. But it suffered from a fundamental flaw. It kept the natural leaders of Ulster in Belfast instead of sending them to Westminster. The kingdom and the province were both the losers.

Now, for another paradox. Most people in Britain think that the Army is in Northern Ireland to defend the Unionist majority against the IRA. In fact, it is the other way about. When the IRA launched its terrorist campaign in the late 1960s the Callaghan government disbanded the B Specials — the anti-terrorist element of the Royal Ulster Constabulary — and sent in the British Army to protect the nationalist minority against a Unionist backlash. The Heath government suspended Stormont for the same reason.

The province then became a virtual colony governed directly from Whitehall by a secretary of state. Such an undemocratic solution was plainly unacceptable, except in the very short-term. So what was the government to do? It concluded that it could defeat the IRA only if it won the hearts and minds of the minority. It accordingly proposed a return to devolved government, but on a power-sharing basis. Power-sharing is easy to devise on paper but difficult to put into practice. We tried it in Cyprus and Fiji. Lebanon was once held up as the best example!

There have been three attempts to set up such a government in Northern Ireland: Sunningdale, James Prior's Assembly, and the Hillsborough Anglo-Irish Agreement. All have foundered on the rock of the so-called "Irish dimension": the insistence of the nationalist minority that the Irish Republic should have a say in the devolved government. The Unionists will not accept it, and the nationalists will not co-operate without it.

While the emergency lasts, security must remain in the hands of the secretary of state and under him of the police and military. But there is nothing to stop the restoration of normal local government for the Six Counties and Belfast. The other issues affecting the province could be decided at Westminster through proper parliamentary procedures such as Scotland and Wales now enjoy. The representatives of the two communities could then argue their differences in a House of Commons much more tolerant than Stormont ever was.

But this, of course, would amount to integration; to accepting what Carson and Craig wanted in 1920 and what a majority of Unionists and many nationalists probably want today. No serious attempt has ever been made by ministers even to discuss the case for integration. They and the Press have simply brushed it aside. Why? The reason is clear enough. It would send a message to Dublin (and Washington) that the door to Irish unity was closed. So long as London adheres to the principle of power-sharing it can claim that the door is open. At the same time it can assure the Unionists that they will remain part of the UK as long as they

don't want to pass through the door. This is doublethink. It may seem clever diplomacy, but it can only fuel the fears of the Unionists and the hopes of the nationalists. The resulting uncertainty offers no basis for a constitutional settlement.

What is the alternative? The first step is for the British and Irish governments to accept that the Anglo-Irish Agreement will not lead to a devolved government. They are close to the moment of truth. Any further attempts to appease the advocates of the "Irish dimension" can only encourage the very Unionist backlash which the Army was sent in to prevent.

But how, then, to go back on Hillsborough? London has to decide that it can no longer accept an agreement which gives the republic a one-way right to oversee the affairs of Ulster. But London and Dublin together could, with advantage, reach a much broader Anglo-Irish agreement to oversee all the different problems that the United Kingdom and the republic have in common: the common citizenship of the Irish in Britain; the absence of border control between us; terrorism; our common membership of the EEC; our joint economic and financial interests.

London could accept an "Irish dimension" in the United Kingdom, but only if Dublin could accept a "United Kingdom dimension" in the republic.

The author is Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion.

NOV 25 ON THIS DAY 1861

Smithfield had been waste ground since its closure as London's live cattle market in 1855. It was re-opened in response to the failure of Newgate to cope with the increased supplies of meat reaching the capital.

"A SERIES OF NARROW AND FILTHY LANES"

For seven centuries, dating from 1150, historic Smithfield had been used as a market for live stock. Within our own time its continued application for such a purpose was felt to be intolerable, and after much agitation and the inevitable amount of opposition to a reform touching so many "vested interests", an Act of Parliament was obtained in 1852, under the provisions of which a new cattle-market was constructed by the Corporation at Copenhagen-fields. The arrangements at the Copenhagen-fields are about as good for their purpose as any that could have been desired; but since the time the market there was laid out there have been very great changes in respect of the supply of animal food for the population of the metropolis. Then most of the beasts and sheep converted into meat for sale in the shops of London alive and slaughtered by the retailers. With the development of our railway system, and the additions to the great main lines by extensions which brought them into the business parts of the metropolis the dead meat traffic from the provinces exhibited year by year a heavier tonnage. But the Cattle Plague and the consequent restrictions to the removal from county to county of live stock, which might

communicate or become infected with the disease, brought about something like a revolution in our food supply; and at the present time not less than about 100,000 tons of dead meat are brought into the London market from all parts of the country. The centre to which all this immense quantity of meat has hitherto been consigned is Newgate-market. Now, in modern London it would be difficult to find any site more inconvenient for such a double trade than that of Newgate-market. The whole business had to be done within the very limited space of which Paternoster Row, Ivy-lane, Newgate-street, and the Old Bailey are the boundaries. Last Christmas week 800 tons of meat were brought to London for the Newgate-market by the Great Eastern, the Great Northern, and the Midland railways. This and the consignments by all the other lines had to be conveyed to the market from the railway stations in waggons and trucks. These vehicles and the butcher's carts completely block up Giltspur-street, Newgate-street, and the Old Bailey on several days in the week, Mondays and Fridays especially. Then the so-called market is nothing more than a series of narrow and filthy lanes and alleys, through which one cannot pass without the risk of being knocked down by porters carrying carcasses of sheep and quarters of beef. In several of its avenues there is barely room for two people to pass abreast. In providing such a market as the new one at Smithfield the Corporation have done an inestimable service to the consumers of the metropolis; they have taken a step which will further develop the meat trade, and have utilized ground which in its waste state was a reproach to themselves as civic authorities.





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## WATER TESTS

Yesterday the Government unveiled its plans for water privatization. They mark the beginning of a long haul to try to persuade Parliament and public that the benefits that privatization has brought in other industries will be brought, too, in the case of the water authorities and that the potential disadvantages of privatization will not outweigh them.

Water is different. It is essential to life. Its supply is not easily a matter for competition. Its quality can vary. So can the quality of the means to dispose of water-borne wastes. Worse water treatment could have a bad effect on the public health. This much the White Paper recognizes. The question, then, is how different is water?

Yesterday's answer was not definitive; the debate cannot therefore be over. Here is an important opportunity for Parliament to rouse itself to a forensic exercise. Its committee work shows it is capable. Members of Parliament and peers must now make the effort to translate the painstaking style of the committee corridor to the floor of the Houses.

The debut of the Water Bill was not, unfortunately, auspicious. The Government has a case to prove. The supply of water and its disposal is a source of national pride. Britain's public-health record over a long haul of years shows that, as does the water industry's record in exports.

Water supply underwent a major reorganization in the early 1970s; in the years since, most of the regional authorities have charted an impressive course. The concept of "integrated river-basin management", which is to say the unified control of water from the time it falls in the rain to its flow back into the seas, is not one to be lightly jettisoned.

Yet recently the pride has soured. River quality has diminished. Anxieties about the quality of drinking water from the tap have grown. More important, public expectations about issues loosely grouped under the heading "environmental" have risen. Public confidence that the water authorities can improve things has fallen.

Enter privatization as a remedy, not just for finances, but also the multiple issues of water quality, sewage treatment, and river pollution. The Government has made a reasonable and valiant start. The National Rivers Authority (NRA) is long overdue: a body like it would be a useful reform even without privatization.

The Secretary of State for the Environment retains, and gains, extensive powers to monitor and prosecute.

But these toothy watchdogs surround what is planned in future to be a profit-making industry. Although it would have the advantage of being able to raise capital in future without fighting against the claims of schools and hospitals, the regulatory regime must be as tough as is required to protect standards and guard against unreasonable price rises, not as weak as is required to raise finance. Then let the markets judge whether there is money to be made.

The arguments that the Government must answer during the debates on this Bill can be marshalled as follows: it must make a clearer case on the issue of competition. The public understands privatization when it holds the feet of complacent (public) managers against the fires. But where is the spur for water managers? The clauses in the Bill allowing the regulator to make cost comparisons between regions need to be spelt out in much more detail, especially in terms of how he will act upon any inefficiencies he finds.

The period of the supply licence to be granted to water companies needs looking at; so, too, does precisely what happens when, and if, a water company defaults on its duties. Is Mr Ridley contemplating the prospect of a period when the taps might go dry, or does he envisage the possibility of renationalizing?

The Government makes a stout case in principle for its regulating bodies. It needs to add to that some financial flesh. How constrained will the NRA be by Treasury nostrums; how far will it liaise with the prices regulatory body when it thinks water companies should be spending more on preventing pollution and they plead poverty in the absence of some significant inflation of water charges?

Water and sewerage, as ministers are keen to point out, do not constitute a large portion of the average family budget; but that does not mean they can escape a grilling on the fine details of this Bill. On the contrary, it is the very cheapness of water that makes it such a precious item. To be justified, privatization must offer the prospect of making the basic costs of treating and supplying it cheaper still and meeting rising public expectations about the place of water in our ecology.

## TROUBLE ON TWO FRONTS

The nationalist demonstrations and ethnic violence which afflicted the Caucasian republics of the USSR earlier this year have flared up again, only days before the Supreme Soviet meets in Moscow to endorse amendments to the Soviet Constitution. The renewed unrest encompasses not only the republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia and the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh, but also the republic of Georgia. The whole of the Soviet Union's southern flank looks suddenly volatile.

Less prone to violence, but no less disturbing to Moscow, will be the situation on the country's western periphery. Two weeks ago, the Baltic republic of Estonia earned itself a reprimand by declaring itself "sovereign", with powers to countermand central legislation. Lithuania voted to delay its own decision, and precipitated demonstrations by doing so.

For the first time since Mr Gorbachev came to power, the authority of the Kremlin has been challenged on two fronts at once. Each is a border area of considerable sensitivity and strategic importance.

How serious a threat the latest unrest represents will depend on two imponderables. The first is the extent to which the latest unrest has been deliberately orchestrated to influence the outcome of the Supreme Soviet's deliberations on the Constitution, and whether it will continue to spread afterwards. The second is whether Mr Gorbachev's opponents will be able to use the evidence of growing discontent in geographically sensitive areas to discredit the reform programme as a whole.

In the Caucasus, some of the protests were sparked off by reports (since denied) that the status of Nagorno-Karabakh had been unexpectedly placed on the agenda of the Supreme Soviet meeting. Some demonstrations in Azerbaijan are believed to be a response to the death sentence passed on an

Azeri ringleader of the anti-Armenian pogrom in Sumgait in February; others are said to be protests against the building of a new factory by, and for, Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh.

While these are essentially local issues, the protests in Georgia and the Baltic seem primarily to reflect dissatisfaction with the proposed amendments to the Soviet Constitution. The changes have been presented as extending the autonomy of the union republics, but some regard them as depriving the republics of rights they already have — at least in theory.

Moscow has indicated that it is considering minor changes to the wording of more contentious sections, but it has also restated its belief in a strong central authority. The dissenting republics are unlikely to be satisfied after the Supreme Soviet next week.

Whether their nationalist aspirations will find a new focus after the meeting is questionable. But there may be no need for such a focus, given the strength of the nationalist revival in the Baltic and the encouragement the Baltic protests have given to nationalist causes elsewhere. The risk that protest could spread to neighbouring Belarus and the Ukraine, which is the most populous of the Soviet republics, cannot be regarded lightly by Moscow.

If that were to happen, Mr Gorbachev and the reforms he has begun would surely be endangered. The spectre of widespread discontent would frighten many in the leadership by itself; but for it to be concentrated in the border areas could provoke the accusation that the security of the State — a State which has felt insecure from its inception — was threatened.

Next week's Supreme Soviet may show how much the Kremlin is prepared to concede to pacify its restive nationalities. Failure could mean pacification of quite a different sort.

## THE SAVAGE SICKNESS

We see them in our streets, walking by themselves, talking to themselves, mocked by children, moved on by shopkeepers, every month apparently more numerous. They are not drinking or drunk. They are dishevelled, but not dyed with the ancient grey dirt of the tramp. They are sufferers from an illness that is ill-understood and a treatment policy that has long gone badly wrong.

Three years ago *The Times* called on the Government to ease the tragedy of schizophrenia and to stop it becoming a national scandal. An award-winning series by the writer, Marjorie Wallace, showed the desperate plight of sick people discharged from hospitals into "community care" which, while admirable in principle, was inadequate, often non-existent, in practice.

Three years later, it is time to take stock. Last night it was announced that the Prince of Wales is to become patron of the charity which was set up as a direct result of the *Times* campaign. Awareness of the problem has been markedly enhanced. The generosity of sponsors, in particular the Burton Group, has made it possible for SANE (Schizophrenia, A National Emergency) to campaign as vigorously as its name demands that it should.

There are good signs from the Government. The Department of Health is taking an interest, albeit a cautious one, in increasing research into this disease, which is the single biggest filler of hospital beds and will affect one person in every hundred. A damning report on the problems of community care, commissioned from Sir Roy Griffiths, has been

received, if not yet acted upon.

Six months ago the general managers of health authorities were told that mental hospital closures must be "preceded by a build-up of comprehensive alternative services". The funds from the sale of the old institutions had to be used "for the benefit of the client group concerned unless the Department of Health has agreed otherwise".

But there is yet much to be done. The evidence on the streets, in the letters from sufferers and their relatives, in the limited research that has been conducted into what happens to discharged patients, tells a still terrible story.

Schizophrenia is a special scourge of the young. It turns loving teenagers into violent tormentors of their parents. Sometimes the affliction is only temporary; sometimes those afflicted are cured. But many families are condemned to permanently unpredictable shifts between sickness and health, hope and despair.

They talk of "the revolving door". The ill leave the outside world and the well return there, then leave for hospital again, then return, and so on until deliverance or death.

It is right that those whose community can care for them should as far as possible be treated there. It is wrong that the closures of long-stay mental hospitals should be proceeding so much faster than the provision of alternatives; wrong that sick patients should be discharged to "no fixed abode"; wrong that so little research takes place into a state of mind so savage.

## Fragmented view of sovereignty

From Mr Brian Parkyn  
Sir, So Jim Sillars ("Dreams of independence", November 19) says that the European dimension makes the case for Scottish independence "intellectually and politically unassailable". Does this also apply to the people of Gibraltar, the Falkland Islands, and the Six Counties of Northern Ireland?

Surely the great lesson of the post-war years is that the very concept of national sovereignty and independence has become a fantasy, a romantic left-over from the 19th century. The United Kingdom is clearly dependent on both Europe and the United States and is therefore not "independent". Northern Ireland depends both on Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland. Likewise the people of Gibraltar with respect to Spain, and the Falkland Islands with respect to Argentina.

This is even more true for Scotland, with its almost total economic and cultural interdependence with England. Realistically, the Government has rightly recognised that the future of Hong Kong cannot ignore its interdependence with China.

Instead of using emotive words like "independence" and "the democratic right of self-determination", we should be striving to develop new political institutions which do not ignore the reality of the world we now live in. The debate which the Prime Minister started at Bruges has hardly begun.

Yours sincerely,  
BRIAN PARKYN  
(MP for Bedford (Labour), 1966-70)  
9 Clarendon Square,  
Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire,  
November 19.

From the General Secretary of Plaid Cymru

Sir, People in Wales as well as Scotland will welcome Mr Leon Brittan's acceptance of the principle of Scottish self-determination (report, November 19). Mr Brittan, I believe, is the first serious Tory politician since 1979 to have made such a commitment. But why bring up the old canard of "separation"?

As a member of the European Commission, Mr Brittan knows full well he will be obliged to ensure that no barriers remain between member states of the Community after 1992. Once the single market comes into effect, there can be no meaningful separation between states within the Community.

Jim Sillars and the SNP succeeded in doing home this year pointing out the recent Coven by-election. For Scotland and Wales alike, independence in Europe is now a very real alternative to domination by Tory England.

As the UK's senior Commissioner, it may well be Mr Brittan himself who will be handed the job of clearing the way for independent Scottish and Welsh representation within the European Community.

Yours truly,  
DAFYDD WILLIAMS,  
General Secretary,  
Plaid Cymru,  
51 Cathedral Road,  
Cardiff  
South Glamorgan,  
November 21.

## Advice to the Queen

From Mr Humphry Berkeley  
Sir, I was born in the same year as her Majesty the Queen. Having been a rather half-hearted monarchist during the seven years when I was a member of Parliament, from 1959 until 1966, I now believe that the Monarchy is the sole protector of the people of this country against over-mighty government. It is also a world institution without comparison.

It is right that the Queen should be advised solely by the British Prime Minister as to whether to make a state visit to the Soviet Union? Are not the prime ministers of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the prime ministers of the other 13 countries of which she is, also, the Queen entitled to express a view?

There are also a further 31 Commonwealth countries which recognise her as their titular head. Are her views to be ignored? I have visited 39 Commonwealth countries and could name half-a-dozen Commonwealth presidents who (were this not to be a breach of confidence) regularly seek the advice of her Majesty.

Her Majesty is probably the most experienced statesman in the world. She is also a lady of great wisdom and common sense. Might not Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the most recent Commonwealth prime minister to have met Mr Gorbachev, wish to give her some counsel? Yours faithfully,  
HUMPHRY BERKELEY,  
Three Pages Yard, Chiswick, W4,  
November 22.

## Fog-light danger

From Mr John Molloy  
Sir, In television reports of a vehicle pile-up on the M4 on November 7 the police were quoted as saying that a cause was motorists travelling at excessive speeds. As a driver on the same section of the M4 that morning I would suggest that the main cause was the use of rear fog lights in conditions which were only misty.

I have nothing against the use of these lights in the extreme conditions for which they are intended (thick fog or heavy spray).

## Mappa Mundi and cathedral needs

From Mr Michael Reardon  
Sir, As surveyor of the Hereford Cathedral fabric, I would like to refute any accusation that the Chapter are selling the Mappa Mundi merely "to stop up holes in the roof".

Six years ago I advised that at least £2 million, in present-day terms, must be spent on the cathedral within 10 years; but, on the advice of professional fund-raisers that this would be difficult to raise in a relatively poor diocese, an appeal was launched for only half that sum.

The money raised, much of it under covenant and not therefore immediately available, is now enabling us to carry out the most urgent of the repairs and has at least averted collapse. To do the work we have established, as in the Middle Ages, benches against the cathedral, where a team of young and enthusiastic masons carve stone for the repairs with a skill equal in every way to that of their medieval predecessors.

Alas, our funds will not support this enterprise for long enough; in a few years the cathedral will again fall prey to a recurrent pattern of neglect, crisis, and appeal for help. This can only be averted by a sufficient endowment, the interest of which will enable our masons to work on indefinitely, fulfilling a long-term strategy of care and repair.

Such a policy would have benefits, too, for other historic buildings in the Marches, for it is to cathedral works organizations that we look for the concentration of skills and the training of future craftsmen.

The capital needed would be considerable, however, and to suggest that it could be raised by the more effective marketing of the cathedral as a tourist attraction is both unrealistic and irresponsible. It has already been found elsewhere that an excess of visitors coming to look at the building merely as an object of curiosity is destructive both to the fabric and the purpose of the cathedral.

If the Church is to continue as custodian of our national treasures, it must be provided with the financial means to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL REARDON  
(Architect to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral),  
Hillborough Barn,  
Mr Bidard-on-Avon,  
Alcester, Warwickshire,  
November 22.

From Mr Robert Aagaard  
Sir, The decision of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford to sell the Mappa Mundi highlights the financial problems which face English cathedrals that are usually rich in treasures but very limited in income.

The Dean of Salisbury has speculated (report, November 18) that his cathedral would have to sell its copy of Magna Carta if, in some future financial crisis, that

was the only reasonable alternative to letting the spire collapse. Is there not an alternative in such circumstances?

Most cathedrals need money to meet the burden of "wear and tear" and to maintain the fabric on seriously insufficient income. Less than 10p per head, for example, is received at Canterbury Cathedral from 2.2 million visitors, compared with between £1.50 and £2.50 per head at country houses open to the public.

The various ploys used by cathedrals to avoid the nettle of "entrance charges" have met with limited success. I personally believe that it is not beyond the vision of inspired designers to devise a paying-entrance narthex which is undaunting and sensitive, and could incorporate a large free-entry area for those wishing to use a cathedral for worship or prayer.

Weighing the "wear and tear" on cathedrals from visitors, tourists, and pilgrims, and the great variety of benefits they receive, against the long-term survival of buildings of such unique architectural and spiritual importance, together with their irreplaceable and singularly relevant treasures, it is surely clear where the money should come from.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT AAGAARD  
(Chairman, Cathedrals' and Churches' Pilgrims Association),  
Manor House, High Birstwith,  
Harrogate, North Yorkshire,  
November 19.

From Sir Donald Logan

Sir, The Dean and Chapter of Hereford should not be deterred by arguments for keeping their map in this country at all costs. They have a copy of it. By displaying that effectively and as is done with a copy of an equivalent medieval map in Kloster Ebstorf in Germany, and explaining and enlarging it by modern visual techniques, they could both realise the market value of the original and supplement their future income.

What would Britain lose if the original then went abroad? The copy would still testify to knowledge of the world at that time, and to the biblical message of the work. The technique used in creating such documents is presumably already known or can be studied from those we still possess and scholars might continue to have access to the original for what remains to be studied.

Can we really say that with a well-presented copy accessible at Hereford our national heritage will be materially weakened? Yours sincerely,  
DONALD LOGAN,  
6 Thurloe Street, SW7,  
November 21.

From Mr Colin Angwin  
Sir, Which is more important, the map or the cathedral?

Yours etc.,  
COLIN ANGIN,  
As from 12 Kelso Place, W8,  
November 23.

## Reform at the FO

From Sir Michael Buler and others  
Sir, Patrick Cosgrave (article, November 18) states that for years before the 1982 war British diplomats consistently encouraged Argentine governments to believe that Britain would be relieved to be rid of the Falkland Islands, and would do no more than grumble if annexation by Argentina was achieved by force.

He also states, when writing of the negotiations to change the basis of our contributions to the EC Budget in 1979 and 1980, that ECO officials (doubtless sincere and idealistic) consistently advised not only the British, but the Continental press that the Prime Minister was about to give in, or settle for a fudge.

Both these statements are wholly at variance with our knowledge of the facts. We reject the accusation of disloyalty by British public servants to HM Government and the nation. If Mr Cosgrave has evidence to support his views on these two points he should produce it. Condemnation by innuendo and deduction, when presented as fact, is unacceptable. It demeans journalist and newspaper alike.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL BUTLER (Ambassador to the European Communities, 1979-85),  
JULIAN BULLARD (Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1979-84),  
BRIDGES (Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1979-82),  
36a Elm Park Road, SW3,  
November 22.

## Striking wrong note

From Mr Steve Race  
Sir, Bernard Richards ("Music's soft sell-out", November 19) complains knowledgeably about the commercial exploitation of classical music. But to say a sound "reaches a deafening crescendo" is nonsense. Crescendo is the act of getting louder, not the degree of volume finally reached. This usage is due for its final diminuendo.

Yours faithfully,  
STEVE RACE,  
Westcott, Martins End Lane,  
Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire,  
November 20.

From Mr M. D. Berkson  
Sir, Bernard Richards's article prompts me to write about a minor inconvenience of modern life, namely the playing of "music" to a telephone caller while the call is being switched to another extension number. It is distracting and annoying to be forced to listen to snatches of music out of context even if one likes the tune and it is, of course, even more annoying if one dislikes the choice of music.

Suppliers of switchboard equip-

ment claim that this "music-on-hold" facility is useful as indicating that the call has not been cut off. The same information can be given, with less annoyance, by a repetition of the ringing tone during call transfer.

Yours faithfully,  
M. D. BERKSON,  
53 Maze Green Road,  
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire,  
November 22.

ment claim that this "music-on-hold" facility is useful as indicating that the call has not been cut off. The same information can be given, with less annoyance, by a repetition of the ringing tone during call transfer.

## Cue for a meal

From Mr Geoffrey N. Prior  
Sir, On Saturday mornings my wife is wont to read your newspaper in bed. The biblical text today (November 19) was from Proverbs xxx, 8 "... give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me".

Can you imagine a nicer way for a wife to remind her husband that it was his turn to prepare the breakfast? Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY N. PRIOR,  
Highlands, 39 Vanner Avenue,  
Northwood,  
Covess, Isle of Wight,  
November 19.

## Call for British lead in Ethiopia

From Mr Basil Davidson  
Sir, No alarmism is required to say that millions of people in Ethiopia now face disaster to the point where, as matters stand, many can have no realistic prospect of survival. Competent authorities confirm that the damage of heavy rains after drought are compounded by locusts and "army worm", and these scourges continue.

Yet the chief and abiding ruin remains in the refusal or inability of Ethiopia's militarised regime to make any least move towards reconciliation with major populations which continue to resist its policies of war. That regime prefers the route of unrestrained violence. Death sweeps in massively behind it.

This merciless intransigence feeds on support from the USSR; but not only from the USSR. Strong forces in the West, not least in the EEC, consequently possess a means of useful initiative and pressure on behalf of policies of peace. By what medium to apply it?

The Organisation of African Unity remains paralysed by these conflicts in the Horn. The UN has the problem in respect of this region, that the superpowers have yet to shift their postures of interlocked rivalry. The Gorbachov Administration is indeed said to have advised its dependant in Addis Ababa to negotiate with the insurgent nationalities, but meanwhile takes no peace initiative and sends more tanks.

We can hope that the new American Administration will begin to look at the Horn from the standpoint of the survival of the peoples of the Horn; but for this, no doubt, we must wait and see. Waiting to see, as matters stand, will be waiting until too late.

The EEC has a record of support for the Addis regime which undoubtedly gives it both influence and responsibility; but the EEC will not now act in this sense without a determined lead from within its own ranks. Is this, then, not a case beyond polemics, where a British lead within the EEC could be decisive?

There is much to confirm that the time is now right for measures and attitudes capable of beginning to save Ethiopia and its constituent peoples, including the Amhara themselves, from new tragedies that must otherwise await them. Further policies of "waiting to see" what may or may not befall in Addis now invite death.

Yours etc.,  
BASIL DAVIDSON,  
Old Cider Mill,  
North Wootton, Somerset.

## No fun at the Fen

From Dr H. E. Mason  
Sir, As a result of the greenhouse effect, shall we have to row to work in the future instead of drive?

Fortunately, I live on an island which rises out of the Fens and is crowned by the medieval town of Ely. The settlements around here are all built on high land (above five metres). The drainage of the fenland is a complicated system of ditches and pumping stations, culminating in the Hundred-Foot Washes, which are discharged at low tide. What then will happen if the sea level rises over the next 50 to 100 years?

The land around us has often been flooded — we were only an inch of rain away from disaster last winter. We have been assured by Anglia Water Authority that the land around us will (not might) flood again. The greenhouse effect will dramatically increase the frequency. Why then are our district and county councils determined to build a major new settlement (1,500 to 3,000 dwellings) on the flood plain?

The proposed new town, just south of Wilburton, has been named "Westmere" — an appropriate name for Consortium Developments Ltd's flagship. We have some other names for the town: "Waterlogged", "Floodgate", and "Quagmire" and others which are unjokeable. But really it is no joke. We foresee a major disaster, with wholesale damage to property and hi-tech industry.

Other sites are available to solve Cambridgeshire's housing problem which are in all respects more suitable than this one that has been chosen. The county council argue that this site will not attract the undesirable yuppies who work in London. They are probably right, but the locals don't want to live down on the Fen either; they know it too well!

Our only hope is that Mr Ridley and the DOE have more sense than our local councils. Yours faithfully,  
HELEN E. MASON,  
University of Cambridge,  
Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics,  
Silver Street, Cambridge.

## The first Nowell?

From Mr J. D. Hart  
Sir, About 6.30 yesterday evening there was a ring at the bell. I opened the door and was confronted by two boys of about 12, who immediately started to sing: "We wish you a Merry Christmas."

When I interrupted them to suggest that this was rather premature, I was told: "But it's like this, I'm going on holiday, mate!" Yours faithfully,  
J. D. HART,  
221 Ashington Road,  
Rochford, Essex,  
November 21.

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## THE ARTS

## TELEVISION

## Greetings from hell

Even hell has its beauty, especially for those not in it. But the beauty is visual — the feel of the place gives no pleasure. Photography has enabled us to gaze at this century's many hells; but it has also encouraged us to create a vision of them, more divorced from the experience of their horrors, which makes them into "good" pictures.

Manjira Datta's documentary film, *The Sacrifice of Babul* (BBC2, Channel 4's *True Stories* series), certainly gave us a vision of a hell, one where the simpler miseries of the Third World join with the more mannered horrors of industrial pollution. It shows us an Indian community in Bihar, called Mail Agora ("the place of dirt"), next to a coal washery and a thermal power station whose fumes have rained local farmland.

Once forest, the landscape is now all coal dust, great black mounds leading down to thick, dark lakes of foul slurry. There is no fresh water. The dust permeates the bodies of the people who wade deep into the slurry to scrape a living.

This hell is also disturbingly photogenic and the camera made much of its terrible beauty. Not breathing the foul dust and fumes, not feeling the weight of the slumping buckets of slime, the viewer was easily hypnotized by the lingering shots of struggling sooty figures.

This uneasy voyeurism was tempered, though, by the moving individual accounts by the inhabitants of their suffering, which has been given a focus by the shooting of one of them by the Central Industrial Security Force.

Babul's death was remembered in different ways. Some saw it as a personal tragedy, some as an example of the hopelessness of their conditions, some as a catalyst in a revolutionary struggle. There are many visions of hell, even from the inside.

Andrew Hislop

David Toop meets Djavan, a popular singer who personifies the cultural richness of his native Brazil

## Synthesizer with soul

At the age of 13, Djavan Caetano Viana wanted to be Pele. Probably a million other young Brazilians shared the same ambition in 1963, but few of them came close to its realization. On a chilly Friday night in Madrid at the Palacio de Deportes, a venue more suited to basketball than music, the now 39-year-old singer and guitarist Djavan is fulfilling the ambition that replaced his Pele fixation.

Over a period of 70 minutes he and his band have gradually, patiently transformed the Palacio from a three-quarters empty, vast, cold and unforgiving sports arena into an excited mass of Djavan fans. After the encore there is a standing ovation for a set that has drawn upon samba, African music, jazz, reggae and rock. Such catholicity and musical fluency is by no means unusual in Brazil but, whereas other Brazilian singers and musicians have flourished in their own eclecticism and virtuosity, Djavan remains appealingly Brazilian.

A few hours before his show he sits calmly with two of the cassettes that keep him entertained while on tour. One is by the powerful flamenco singer Camaron and the other is a cross-section of West African music, including Salif Keita, Ali Farka Toure and Mory Kanté. All of them qualify as contemporary world music troubadours, participants in instant global cassette culture, and perhaps there are some who would pick one of them to wear the mantle of the late Bob Marley.

If Djavan is dreaming of a role as pan-cultural spokesman for the Third World, then it is not evident. "When I make music it will always be Brazilian," he says. "I am Brazilian. I live in Brazil and my influences are Brazilian, so no matter which musicians I work with, my music will stay Brazilian."

Nothing is quite so simple, however. For his latest album, *Bird of Paradise*, Djavan has made use of the considerable skills of

American musicians such as Ronnie Foster, Harvey Mason, Greg Phillinganes and George Duke, and he has also recorded with Stevie Wonder and Manhattan Transfer. The Brazilian sound may be the epitome of tropical languor, but this can conceal musical complexities only negotiable by those with technique to spare.

This love affair between American jazz and Brazilian pop stems from the early Sixties and the bossa nova and was continued in the Seventies with Latin jazz fusion. Brazilian music, like Brazil itself, is a product of fiercely contrasting formative influences.

Djavan enjoys these cross-cultural experiments and takes them seriously. "Before playing we have long conversations," he says, "and after the conversations we play a lot before recording. The most fantastic part of this process is that most of the time the result is much more rich than the one I was aiming for."

He was born in Maceio, the capital of Alagoas, right on the nose of north-eastern Brazil. "Its geography has everything," he says, "forests, lakes, deserts; but the main thing is that it's very poor, almost miserable. I wasn't miserable, but I came from a very poor family."

His father died when he was three and his mother survived by taking in washing. She sang as she worked, he says, in the way the slaves once did. Slavery is a frequent reference in the conversation and Djavan clearly values his trip to an Angolan music festival, which gave him the opportunity to hear African music at first hand.

The first musical reference he was to use in his own career was not African, however, but Liverpoolian. At the age of 18 he started a group which played Beatles songs exclusively. They were called LSD, in slightly scandalous tribute to a drug which was generating a great deal of curious attention in Brazil. In 1973 he moved to Rio de

Janeiro, the city where Brazilians have to go if they want success. Music was still dominated by the Tropicalista movement, a loose group of artists whose work was full of social comment and given to searching for roots in African music, or in the religion that was developed in Brazil by the West African slaves: Candomblé.

The effect of Tropicalista singers such as Gilberto Gil, Milton Nascimento, Chico Buarque and Caetano Veloso can still be heard in Djavan's music alongside the gentler influence of Tom Jobim and João Gilberto or the more highly-strung folk music of the Alagoas region.

The tradition of direct political statements in song lyrics, exemplified by Buarque and Nascimento, is upheld by Djavan, although he is determined not to be typecast as a "political" singer. "When I started composing," he says, "it was in that particular situation of the Brazilian military dictatorship. It was usual for Brazilian composers to write protest songs, but they weren't really protest — they were just telling people what needed to be known."

"Brazil is a very confused country, politically and economically, and none of the problems have been solved; so when I compose I'm always thinking of some way to talk about the same problems that existed back then. I also write songs about love and relationships, though."

Love and relationships are international currency, but ironically it is partly the desperate economic situation in Brazil which is forcing Djavan to look further afield. Brazilians no longer have the money to support local stars.

Success on a bigger stage than his home can offer may be imminent, but his motivation is still musical. "My main thing," he says convincingly, "is to exchange information, to have contact with other people and other cultures."

Djavan performs at the Dominion Theatre, London W1, tonight



Musical communicator: Djavan as seen on stage last week in Madrid

THE TIMES  
NEW GROVE

Musical  
CHALLENGE

When the fifth edition of *Grove's Dictionary* was published in the mid-1950s,

Beethoven, Brahms and Wagner were regarded with uncritical reverence, while "minor" composers suffered from a misunderstanding born of ignorance, according to Stanley Sadie, *Grove's* editor. The *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, published in 1980, did not change all that singlehandedly, but it did pull together an immense amount of new research about less-appreciated 19th-century figures.

That dictionary, along with five music-filled days in New York, is the first prize in *The Times/New Grove Musical Challenge*, a test of knowledge for which the fourth set of questions is published today. The winner will also enjoy New Year at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on 42nd Street, with tickets to Domingo in *Aida* at the Metropolitan Opera and to a gala at Carnegie Hall, plus £200 spending money.

TODAY'S  
QUESTIONS

16. The Barber of Seville, *The Marriage of Figaro*... what is the third in the sequence, and who set it as an opera?

17. What opera are set in: (a) Ensenada; (b) Crete; (c) Sicily; (d) the Moon?

18. Which French composer wrote the following, and while writing which opera? "I have found, and what is more quite spontaneously, a technique which strikes me as fairly new, that is, silence (don't laugh)."

19. (a) Which prima donna, engaged to sing in London, married on the journey from Venice the harpsichordist sent to fetch her? (b) Which famous librettist ran a distillery in New York and a milliner's shop in Philadelphia?

20. Which contralto: (a) sang the same song every evening to charm the King of Spain; (b) was killed because he boasted of a love affair he had with a lady of noble birth; (c) was allegedly the father of children and recipient of a (lost) scene by Mozart?

• The final word of question 12 yesterday should have read "conducting", not "composing".

## How to enter

Each day until Saturday, November 26, five questions will appear in *The Times*. Keep your answers until Saturday, when a reply coupon for all 25 questions and instructions on where to send them will appear with the final set of questions. The person with the greatest number of correct answers will be the winner. In the event of a tie, there will be a draw.

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## THEATRE

London Assurance  
Leeds Playhouse

This 1841 piece, by the young emigre Dubliner Dion Boucicault, is the only English comedy of any worth to have been written between Sheridan and Gilbert. The characters are caught up in a version of the Town versus Country plot, in tandem with a genial tussle between Youth and Age.

## Bags of style

The Mikado  
Coliseum

Two years on, Jonathan Miller's production of *The Mikado* for the ENO still looks the most stylish musical in town. Part of the reason for its success is the way it looks

## OPERA

each night. Rarely have the designers Stefanos Lazaridis and Sue Blane combined more successfully than in the dazzle of whiteness that is the setting. Anthony van Laast's choreography is deliciously witty: if the action flags then bring on a glitter-and-baggy line of dancing bellhops and chambermaids, which Sullivan's score makes plenty of allowance for. With such accessories, David Ritch's task of staging this winter's revival becomes that much easier. And he does it with notable panache.

The present cast is, with the exception of Koko, as good as one as the Coliseum have fielded. Bonaventura Bottone's ever-so-slightly camp Nanki-Poo was there from the start, with clean tenor and modulated Home Counties vowels. It is easy to see why Eric Shilling's Fish-Tush, played as a carrot-haired vicar straight from Ben Travers — admirably Twenties — that — fancies him just a little. Susan Bullock's Yum-Yum is one of the Roedean girls: a stouter figure than Lesley Garrett made her. The Mikado himself, very Pere Ubu, remains one of Richard Angas's best creations.

The newcomers include the conductor, John Pryce-Jones, making a most auspicious house debut in zipping the score along without pushing his singers too hard. Not that Donald Adams's Pooh-Bah would allow himself to be pushed by anyone less than a Mikado. He has been making a reputation recently outside G & S, but easily assumes the old mantle again, even adding the title of Chief Rabbi to Pooh-Bah's many posts.

It is possibly the sheer professional power of Adams's performance that makes Bill Oddie's Koko look and sound puny. It starts uncertainly, as did the Koko of Eric Idle, with a variety of voices but unlike Idle, Oddie does not generate much assurance with the evening, despite the help of a body mike. It is a basically a panto performance.

The Miller *Mikado* has always shown a predilection for pint-sized comics but maybe the time has come to return to the ranks of the G & S pros.

John Higgins

## Comic revival

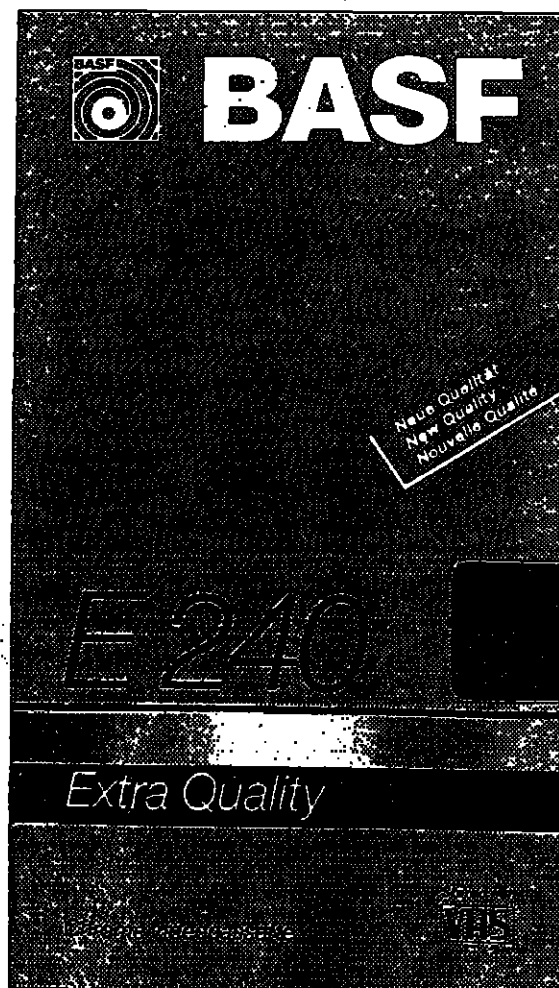
Simon Dutton's insouciant Dazzle and Andrew Normington's Meddle, the odious lawyer, capture the play's spirit of manic exaggeration; and George Glen has great fun with Grace, the Gloucestershire innocent, a modest Miss who speaks in ardent nature metaphors worthy of the soppiest lake poet, whom she plays with engaging wide-awake eyes and the stiff limbs of a doll.

Tim Luscombe's lively direction sends you out with a glow in your heart.

Jeremy Kingston

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"Bird is cinema at its finest... it has the pull, the tug, the grace and movement of the music itself."

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a sincere tribute to a genius...  
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— George Melly, *VOGUE*

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WRITTEN BY CLAYTON KRESS DIRECTED BY CLAYTON KRESS  
PRODUCED AND EDITED BY CLAYTON KRESS

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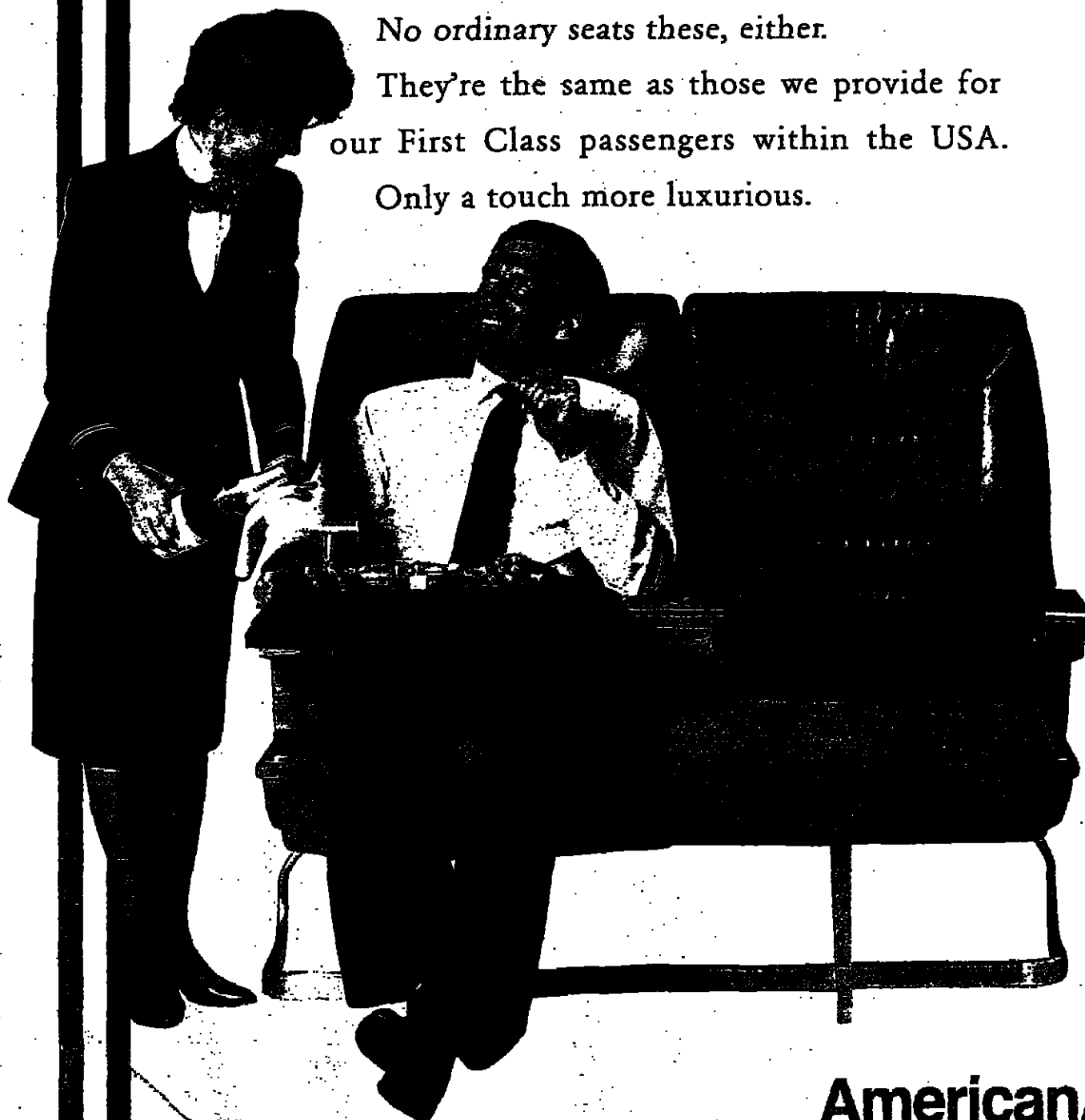
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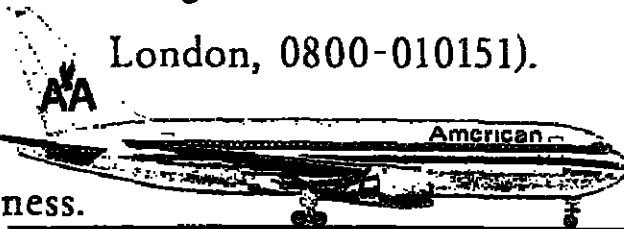
Or the four-course, chef-prepared meals worthy of the name cuisine.

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## INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

**BOOKING KEY**  
★ Seats available  
★ Returns only  
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE  
LONDON

★ **THE BACHE**: Nancy Mackler's dazzling production of *Euripides* for Shared Experience. Lyric Studio Theatre, King St, W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 8pm. £5. (D)

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS**: Billy Russell's sentimental musical: separated twins separated by the English class system; (Kiki Dee as their mother). Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 1115). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 3-6pm, and Sat 4-7pm. £5.50-£18.50. (D)

★ **BRIGADOON**: OK revival of Lerner and Loewe's misty Scottish musical. Victoria Palace, Victoria St SW1 (01-834 1017). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm. Mats Thurs, Sat 2.30-5pm. £5-25.00. All seats half-price.

★ **FALSTAFF**: Vehicle for Bernard Branson in selected bits from *Henry IV* Parts 1 and 2. Effective in patches. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill SE10 (01-858 7733). Train: Greenwich (BR). (15 mins from Charing Cross). Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm. Mats Wed 2.30-4.55pm and Sat 2.30-4.45pm. Fri 7.30-10.15pm. £7.50. Sat 5.50-£21.00. Mats £5.50-25. This week only. (D)

★ **THE TEMPEST**: Cheek by Jowl in London for several weeks between tours with two "desert island" plays: this week *Timothy Walker* as Prospero. Deodar Warehouse, 41 Earlham St, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm; Mats Thurs 2.30-5.10pm and Sat 2.30-5.10pm. £7-15. Fri 7.30-10.15pm. Mats £5-25. Plays alternate weeks with *Philoctetes*.

★ **GERMINAL**: Miners' strikes and revolution: not Britain but Zola's 19th century France in *Pio Barone*, the epic production for Paines Plough. The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Rd, WC1 (01-837 0081). Tube: Euston. Mon to Sat 7.30-11pm. £5. Until Dec 3.

★ **LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET**: Performance art production of the melodrama by Mrs Webster, who drew on her own amazing life for the adventures of her bigamous, murderous heroine. ICA Theatre, The Mall, SW1 (01-930 3647). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8-10pm. £5.50. Until Dec 17. (D)

★ **A QUESTION OF GEOGRAPHY**: Transfer from Stratford of John Berger's Russian prison-camp drama. The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-638 8891). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Performances 7.30-10.15pm. Sat mat 2pm. Press night Nov 29, 7.30-9.30pm. Then in repertoire. Even 29; Mats £5.50. (D)

★ **LONG RUNNERS**: ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166). ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108). ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 8111). ★ The Girl on the Train: 100 Theatre (01-434 0819). ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ★ A Rump for Your Wife: Coton Theatre (01-830 5216). ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665)

★ **OUT OF TOWN**  
RICHMOND: ★ Time and the Conways: Carmen Silvera, Richard Warwick, Polly James in touring production of Priestley's time classic.

## FILMS

★ Also on national release  
★ Advance booking possible

★ **AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS** (PG): Louis Malle's moving, semi-autobiographical drama, set in a provincial boarding school in the last months of the Second World War. Gaspard Manesse heads the young, non-professional cast (107 min). Cannon Mayfair (01-499 3737). Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.20, 8.50.

★ **BIG** (PG): Tom Hanks plays the child turned grown-up in this latest role-reversal comedy from Hollywood. Penny Marshall directs (105 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5086). Progs 1.45, 4.40, 7.10, 9.35. Cannon Oxford St (01-638 0310). Progs 2.30, 5.20, 8.20. Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Odeon High St Kensington (01-836 6644). Progs 1.40, 4.40, 6.20, 8.40. Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.15, 8.35. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905, 586 3057). Progs 1.20, 3.35, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **BIRD** (15): Clint Eastwood's impressively moving biography of Charlie Parker with Forest Whitaker as the legendary jazz saxophonist. (161 min). Lumiere (01-638 0691). Progs 1.25, 4.35, 7.55. Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 1.40, 5.15, 8.45. Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Progs 3.30, 7.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

★ **COLORS** (18): Vivid crime drama from Dennis Hooper (Sean Penn and Robert Duvall as Los Angeles cops of clashing temperaments, assigned to the CRASH unit. (121 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5086). Progs 2.30, 6.40, 9.25. Notting Hill Coronet (01-727 6706). Progs 3.20, 5.50, 8.20.

★ **CRASH** (18): Vivid crime drama from Dennis Hooper (Sean Penn and Robert Duvall as Los Angeles cops of clashing temperaments, assigned to the CRASH unit. (121 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5086). Progs 2.30, 6.40, 9.25. Notting Hill Coronet (01-727 6706). Progs 3.20, 5.50, 8.20.

★ **DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES** (15): Terence Davies's remarkable new film from Liverpool. (194 min). 50s-a moving exorcism of family ghosts, ingeniously set to popular music. With Freda Dowie and Peter Postlethwaite (85 min). Renard (01-837 8402). Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

## TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

**LONDON:**  
1 (1) A Fish Called Wanda  
2 (2) The Land Before Time  
3 (3) The Land Before Time  
4 (4) The Land Before Time  
5 (5) The Land Before Time  
6 (6) The Land Before Time  
7 (7) The Land Before Time  
8 (8) The Land Before Time  
9 (9) The Land Before Time  
10 (10) The Land Before Time



## A Romany chorus line

Last September, Gipsy Kings (above), a virtually unknown troupe of flamenco guitarists with no UK recording contract and little in the way of advance publicity, made their British debut by selling out the 1,400 capacity Town & Country Club in North London. Here is hard evidence of the increasing roots of World Music and fall marks to the ICA, which promoted the concert as part of its "Lords and Ladies of Little Egypt" festival. Gipsy Kings are Romany from Arles in Southern France and the group is based around the singing and playing of the Reyes brothers and the Balarde brothers. Their first

UK single, *Bamboleo*, an infectious combination of Latin rhythms, staccato Spanish strumming and a warm, romantic chorus line, is released this week, and has already topped the charts in Canada and countries in mainland Europe. Reports suggest that the group's return shows will be occasions of rare and authentic magic and tickets for them are already a much sought after commodity. Gipsy Kings play tomorrow and Sunday at the Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-580 9562), 7.30pm, £7.50-£8.50, and appear tonight with George Melly on Jonathan Ross's *The Last Resort* (Channel 4, 10.30pm). David Sinclair

★ **A FISH CALLED WANDA** (15): The adventures of two scheming Americans (Jamie Lee Curtis and Kevin Kline), an uptight English barrister (John Cleese) and an animal rights fanatic (Michael Palin), who owns a fish called Wanda. Screened by John Cleese. Directed by Ealing veteran Charles Crichton (109 min). Cannon Oxford St (01-638 0310). Progs 2.30, 5.20, 8.20. Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 1.40, 5.15, 8.45. Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Progs 3.30, 7.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

★ **GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM** (15): Robin Williams in a military comedy about a DJ sent to Vietnam to keep up the morale of the troops. Directed by Barry Levinson (123 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5086). Progs 1.30, 4.00, 6.45, 9.25. Cannon Oxford Street (01-638 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Notting Hill Coronet (727 6705). Progs 3.20, 5.50, 8.20.

★ **MIDNIGHT RUN** (15): Engaging comedy-thriller, with Robert De Niro as a bounty hunter given the job of taking a sensitive ball-jumping accountant across-country. With Charles Grodin, directed by Martin Brest (126 min). Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 5.05, 8.15. Empire Leicester Square (01-200 0200). Progs 1.40, 5.15, 8.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Screen on the Green (01-226 5620). Progs 2.00, 4.05, 6.40, 8.40. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

★ **SWITCHING CHANNELS** (PG): New slapstick version of Hecht and MacKinnon's masterly play *The Front Page*, with Burt Reynolds as the TV news editor determined to hold onto his star reporter and ex-wife (Kathleen Turner). Directed by Kotcheff, with Christopher Reeve. (105 min). Odeon Leicester Sq (01-830 6111). Progs 12.45, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.45.

★ **THOMSON/SNO**: The Scottish National Orchestra is conducted by Brydon Thomson in Brahms's Academic Festival Overture, Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No 1 (soloist, Lydia Markovich) and Rachmaninov's Symphony No 1. Usher Hall, Lothian Rd, Edinburgh (031-228 1155, 031-228 5756). 7.30pm, £2.70-£11.50. (D)

★ **PLEIN VIEUX**: The Scottish National Orchestra is conducted by Brydon Thomson in Brahms's Academic Festival Overture, Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No 1 (soloist, Lydia Markovich) and Rachmaninov's Symphony No 1. Usher Hall, Lothian Rd, Edinburgh (031-228 1155, 031-228 5756). 7.30pm, £2.70-£11.50. (D)

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## OPERA

★ **LE NOZZE DI FIGARO**: The Gullthall school of Music and Drama present a new production by Stephen Lawless as their end of term show. Stuart Bedford conducts the student cast. Gullthall School, Barbican, London EC2 (01-638 2571), 7-10.15pm. Tickets free but limited.

## DANCE

★ **EMBARQUE**: Siobhan Davies's work for Rambert Dance Company with Anthony Tudor's *Dark Elegance*. Gullthall School, Barbican (041 331 1234), 7.30-10pm, £3-£9.50. (D)

★ **KATHAKALI**: Lively dance programme from India. Riverside Studios, Hammersmith (01-746 3354), 8.15-10.15pm, £5.

## JAZZ

★ **RONALD SHANNON JACKSON**: The Last Exit drummer returns with the latest edition of his frenetic Decoding Society. Half Moon Theatre, 213 Mile End Rd, London E1 (01-790 4000) 8pm, £2.

★ **PHARAOH SANDERS**: John Coltrane's acolyte has won a new young audience with his new boy style. Queen's Hall, Clerk St, Edinburgh (031 686 2019), 8.30pm, £3 reserved.

★ **SCOTT HAMILTON**: A one-off performance by the Concord All-Stars saxophonist. His quintet includes pianist John Burt. The County Farmers Club, 1 Gresham Rd, Cambridge (info 0223 62086), 8pm, £12.

## OTHER EVENTS

**KODAK WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR**: Opening today, an exhibition of 80 photographs, selected from thousands of entries. Natural History Museum, Cromwell Rd, London, SW7, (recorded information 01-725 7866) until Jan 29. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 1pm-6pm. Adult £2, child 5-15 and students £1. Under five free.

**KENNETH TYMAN**: See caption. Theatre: National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (Box Office 01-928 2252), 6pm. Tickets £2.

**CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS**: Two day craft exhibition with 35 craftsmen and

**KENNETH TYMAN** (see Other Events) was the first Literary Manager of the National Theatre and as critic, writer, actor and director, proved a vital force in the shaping of British theatre. At the National Theatre this evening (see listing) his widow, Kathleen Tyman, will be joined by Edward Petherbridge, Jonathan Miller, Adrian Mitchell and the Times drama critic, Irving Wardle, in a discussion of his influential work. Kathleen Tyman will also be signing copies of her biography *The Life of Kenneth Tyman*, published by Methuen Paperback at £5.95.

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women. Proceeds to Cornwall Arts Centre. Wadebridge Town Hall, Wadebridge, North Cornwall. Today 10.30am-5.30pm, tomorrow 9.30am-5.30pm. Entrance free.

**THE GREAT LONDON TEAPOT SHOW**: Exhibition of work by members of London Potters. Morley Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1. Until Dec 15. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-4pm.

## ROCK

★ **DIJAVU**: British debut for the top Brazilian singer-songwriter. Dominion, Tottenham Court Rd, London W1 (01-580 9562), 8pm, £2.50-£5.50.

★ **GRAHAM PARKER**: The very squeeze of sparks, soon back after his show here two weeks ago. The Town of Country, 9-17 Highgate Rd, London NW5 (01-284 0305), 7pm, £4.

★ **NIGHT OF THE GUITARS**: Parade of forgotten guitar heroes including Leslie West (Mountain), Alvin Lee (Ten Years After), Robin Trower, Randy California (Spinal), Steve Howe (Yes/Asia) and others of vintage vintage. Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061 273 6921), 7.30pm, £5. (D)

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## TEMPUS

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## PW advises Hungarians on move to privatization

Hungary is taking the first steps towards privatization. Price Waterhouse, the accountant, has been appointed adviser to Tungsram, a lighting equipment manufacturer, with a view to raising capital, including equity, on world markets. Tungsram is believed to be the first Eastern bloc company since the Second World War to employ western advisers to examine opportunities for international funding. Initially Price Waterhouse will be advising on the restructuring of the company to enable it to raise finance.

Mr Philip Wright of PW said: "It is a unique challenge which breaks entirely new ground in terms of privatization experience worldwide. Tungsram, as Hungary's flagship company, will be a model for other Eastern European companies seeking access to Western capital markets." The accountancy firm is opening an office in Budapest.

## MTI takes a profit tumble

Murray Technology Investments, run by Murray Johnstone, the Glasgow fund manager, saw pre-tax profits tumble to just £615 in the six months to end-September against £156,000 a year ago. MTI is missing the interim dividend. There was a loss per share of 0.05p (0.76p earnings previously). The position should be reversed in the second half, says the company.

## Dutch buy for Perkins

Perkins Foods has acquired Vebro Inc, the Dutch fruit and vegetables group, for an initial consideration of £1.35 million (£998,000) in a cash-and-shares deal. A further consideration of up to £140,607 will be payable in cash subject to Vebro achieving certain profit targets. Vebro made pre-tax profits of about £153,000 on turnover of about £2.5 million in 1987.

## Erostin in £6m deal

Erostin Group, the commercial and residential property developer floated in July, is acquiring Food Converters for £6.02 million cash.

Food Converters, which has net tangible assets of £476,000, made a pre-tax loss of £10,000 on turnover of £55,000 in the year to April. However, its land and buildings assets have been valued at £12.5 million and the company is to sell 58 acres of development land at Staverton, near Trowbridge, Wiltshire, in equal shares to Erostin and Charles Church Chiltern for £10.32 million.

## Next disposal approved

WH Smith Group's acquisition of 22 Alfred Preedy & Sons newspaper outlets from Next can go ahead. The deal is not being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Next, which bought Preedy and its 172 freehold and leasehold shops for £21 million last April, agreed to sell the 22 stores to Smith for £7.8 million.

## Mountleigh's Tesco link-up

Mountleigh Group has linked up with Tesco in a £26 million superstore redevelopment scheme at Ealing, west London. The property group said a joint planning application had been submitted for a 67,000 sq ft superstore on a 10-acre site to include parking facilities. It did not give any further details.

## ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 988	CU 2,370	Laporte 559	Saatchi 2,049
Ady 5,844	Cuscos Gold 438	L&G 204	Sainsbury 432
Ady-Lyons 3,228	Courtland 1,367	Lloyds 3,135	Scott & N 909
Amsted 1,648	Courtside 1,211	Lloyds 8,556	Seares 4,008
ASDA 5,013	Dalrymple 424	Lucas 375	Sedgwick 1,821
AS Foods 6	Dons 3,680	Magnet 2,372	Shell 1,845
Aurys 3,132	ECC 80	M&S 4,112	Shaw 745
BAA 704	Enterprise 1,227	Marshall Cm 1,012	Slough 153
BET 987	Ferranti 1,187	MB Group 1,619	Smith & N 1,117
BTH 2,597	Fisons 350	MEPC 1,787	Smith W 1,296
B&S 1,125	Flint 228	Mitland 889	Smiths Ind 389
Barclays 871	Gateway Cp 1,716	Norwest 621	STC 1,031
Bass 368	Gen Acc 1,481	Nairn 417	Stan Chart 1,848
B&S 549	GIC 3,259	N&N Food 95	Stewart 1,257
Beazer 342	Globo 970	P&O 1,264	Sun Alliance 477
Borlase SW 347	Globe Inv 67	Pearson 996	T & N 87
BCC 558	Glynwed 235	Pearson 242	Tarmac 2,246
Blue Arrow 8,943	Grainada 2,228	Pilkington 1,089	Tate & Lyle 389
Blue Circle 187	Grand Met 1,001	Plessey 4,589	Taylor Wood 188
BPC 838	GLS 'A' 51	Polyc Pack 2,436	TGS 1,168
B&S 12,381	GRI 1,748	Prudential 5,578	Tesco 1,025
BOC 1,304	GKN 514	Racal 5,272	Thorn EMI 775
Br Aero 4,573	Gunnies 3,885	Racal Tele 1,200	Tratrigar 591
Brax 3,751	Heron 'A' 655	RAF 1,177	THF 1,554
Br Comm 2,713	Heron 9,818	Rank 257	Unilever 1,088
Br Gas 9,580	H & C 389	RAC 27	Unigate 1,221
Br Land 1,708	Hawker 1,359	Radiant 1,102	Unilever 221
Br Petrol 3,718	Hilldown 2,185	Road 993	United Dis 1,990
Br Telecom 3,217	ICI 2,708	Routon 289	Unit News 174
Burnt 1,109	ICI 560	RMC Gp 456	Wellcome 1,432
Burns 261	Inchcape 710	RIT 1,025	Whitard 1,188
Barton 1,727	Jaguar 269	R-Royce 4,478	Williams 1,343
C&W 1,334	Ladbro 669	Rothm 'B' 686	Wills Fab 25
Cadbury 1,059	Ladbro 949	Royal Bank 223	Wimpey G 1,076
Coats 2,558	Ladbro 840	Royal Ind 1,278	Woodward 1,891

## PIPE-LINES ACT 1962

## Notice of application for pipeline construction authorisation

## PETROFINA (UK) LIMITED

## Proposed Humberside - Buncfield Refined Oil Products Pipeline

Petrofina (UK) Limited hereby give notice, in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Pipeline Act 1962, that an application has been made to the Secretary of State for Energy for the grant of authorisation for the construction of a cross-country pipeline. The proposed pipeline is to be for the conveyance of refined oil products between the pump station adjacent to Lindsey Oil Refinery in the County of Humberside, and the oil storage terminal at Buncfield in the County of Hertfordshire. The pipeline will be owned by Petrofina (UK) Limited.

Copies of the relevant plans showing the proposed route of the pipeline may be inspected during normal office hours, at:

The Department of Energy, Room 1076, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ

and at the planning departments of the following local authorities:

Humberside County Council, County Hall, Beverley HU17 9BA  
Cleethorpe Borough Council, Council House, Cleethorpe, South Humberside DN35 6LN  
Grimsby Borough Council, Council Offices, Station Road, Grimsby, Humberside DN20 8EG

Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Lincoln LN1 1YL  
West Lindsey District Council, The Guildhall, Gainsborough DN21 2DH  
North Kesteven District Council, District Council Offices, Eastgate, Sleaford NG34 7EF  
South Kesteven District Council, Guildhall, Grantham NG31 6PZ

Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RA  
Rutland District Council, Calmsie, Oakham LE15 6HP

Northamptonshire County Council, County Hall, Northampton NN1 1DN  
East Northamptonshire District Council, Rushden Hall, Rushden NN10 9NJ

Cambridgeshire County Council, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP

Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Bedford MK42 9AP

North Bedfordshire Borough Council, Town Hall, Bedford MK40 1SJ  
Mid-Bedfordshire District Council, The Limes, 12 Dunstable Street, Ampthill MK45 2JU  
Luton Borough Council, Town Hall, Luton LU1 2BQ  
South Bedfordshire District Council, 76 High Street, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 1LF

Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Hertford SG13 8DE  
North Hertfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth SG6 3JF  
St Albans City and District Council, 16 St Peter's Street, St Albans AL1 3ND  
Dacorum Borough Council, Dacorum Civic Centre, The Markwells, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1HH

Objections to this application should be made in writing setting out the grounds of objection and bearing the reference PEP 75/706/14 and should be sent to the Secretary of State for Energy at Room 1076 Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ to arrive not later than 6 January 1989.

Petrofina (UK) Limited,  
Petrofina House,  
1 Ashley Avenue,  
Epsom,  
Surrey KT18 5AD

N C P Vandervell  
Secretary

Dated: 21 November 1988

## Cold comfort for Boots in the City

There has hardly been an analyst in the whole Square Mile of London with a good word to say for Boots. Its pharmaceutical business has entered a fallow period, with several ideas in the pipeline but no contribution to profits expected until the early 1990s.

Meanwhile, the retailing story has sounded a bit like a cracked record. Each year, the strategy was outlined, yet no real benefits seemed to flow through to the bottom line. This year, Boots is trumpeting a 1.5 percentage point improvement in margins, and a £16.4 million rise in profit from the retail business. Can it be that the strategy is at long last paying off?

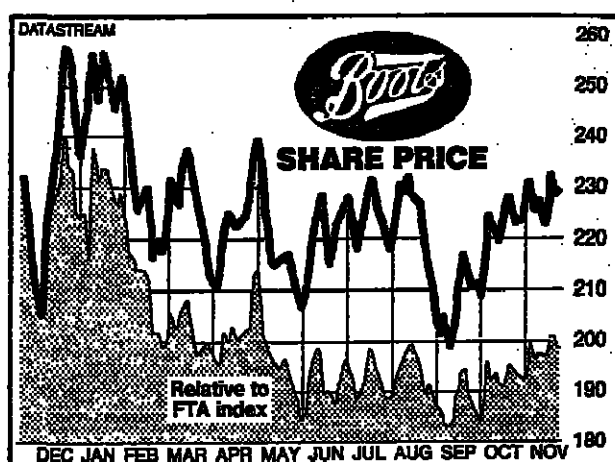
Mr Zak Keshavjee, stores analyst at SBCI Savory Mills, thinks not. In fact an analysis of exceptional factors in the make-up of the retail profit suggests that margins may have improved very little. Of the £16.4 million profit improvement, £3 million was due to the absence of stock write-downs and a further £6.5 million from a change in the method of internal transfer pricing. Shrinkage fell from the high level of 2 per cent to 1.6 per cent, saving some £3.8 million, and there was an unquantified refund on prescriptions from the NHS. Add these items up and the margin improvement is seen to be more apparent than real.

To be fair to Boots, it could be argued the reduction in shrinkage is related to the installation of electronic point of sale in the stores, and the lack of stock write-downs could be due to better stock control. In fact, these results have created a dilemma for a market which has regarded Boots as little more than a potential takeover situation. What the speculators do not want to hear is a good trading result. The shares were marked up 4p to 233p, but in the cold light of day the market may change its mind.

Over the Christmas period, investors may be inclined to give Boots the benefit of the doubt. However the shares are likely to be held back by the realization that any growth in the retail side will need to carry the pharmaceutical business for up to three years until the new heart drug starts generating profits. Full year pre-tax profits are expected to nudge £300 million, including property profits. The prospective multiple of 11.2 still has an element of bid premium in it. Evidence of a sustainable rate of growth will be needed to underpin the shares at this level.

## J Waddington

One of John Waddington's hit games for youngsters this Christmas is called "Crazy Crocodiles." Another set of figures like the interims, and Waddington may itself have



to watch out for the crocodiles.

Waddington last manned the defences five years ago when it fought off bids from Mr Robert Maxwell (twice) and Norton Opat. But recent moves in the packaging sector, including a hostile offer for Redfearn and the Metal Box French link-up, make it inevitable that someone will have run the calculator over the Monopoly manufacturer.

Waddington has been going ahead with its own small acquisition programme, with two more companies added yesterday.

But the figures showed that long-running problems were continuing at its Comet business in the US and the Johnson and Johnsons Plastics subsidiary in this country, themselves relative newcomers to the group.

These cost the company about £1 million at the pre-tax level and reduced margins in the packaging division as a whole from 10 per cent to 8 per cent. The games side, the best-known but smallest division, saw lower sales but marginally higher profits in its busiest half.

As in previous years, property profits taken above the line came to the rescue. With-out an £850,000 contribution, to be repeated in the second half, pre-tax profits would have been very flat. As it was, they rose from £8.25 million to £9.20 million.

Against this, a £676,000 interest payment, against a small credit last time, reflects investments and acquisitions. Miss Sonia Falaschi, analyst at Phillips & Drew, the broker, is looking for a £20 million pre-tax profit this year. This

would put the company on an undemanding p/e multiple of 10.5, advancing to an unimpressive 11.5 without property profits, at yesterday's price of 198p, down 10p.

Waddington has some impressive new products coming on stream and some good businesses. Long term, the shares look a good two-way bet - the management will get it right or be taken out - but in the near term they offer little excitement.

## Guinness

## Mahon

Guinness Mahon is showing every sign of being able to swim on its own after abandoning the leaky GPG raft in June. Its results for the full year to September 30 show a healthy return to profit after last year's losses, and the patching up of one or two disasters earlier this year.

It is a somewhat novel experience at Guinness Mahon to find all of its operating divisions making a profit at the same time.

On the banking side, capital is being pulled back from the group's lending schemes to back more conventional lending in London, pushing up profits to £3 million. Corporate finance still seems to be a mere dream in the minds of

the management, which is unfortunate since this is an area where most other merchant banks are making a large proportion of profits.

The bank is, however, beginning to break back into the top quality underwriting market on issues such as the British Steel flotation.

In securities, the crash-induced loss of £5.2 million last year has been converted into a creditable £2.2 million profit this time. Both the market-making and broking operations seem to be running fairly smoothly.

Most important of all, perhaps, is that Guinness Mahon is gradually pulling itself together, and sorting out its cost structure. The work force has shrunk by about 100.

This is all good news but must be only the beginning. The 1.2p final dividend is the first to be paid by the bank since its independence, and investors will have to wait rather longer to see whether its revival is a more, lasting phenomenon.

Equitcorp, the New Zealand group, is certainly looking for a buyer for its 61 per cent stake, but has not come up with anyone yet. Guinness Mahon's success in pulling itself together may start to attract predators, but until then the shares, unchanged at 133p, are unlikely to show much activity.

## STOCK MARKET

## Talk of stake sale lifts Ultramar

Whispers that Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, has grown tired of his game of cat-and-mouse with Ultramar and had found a buyer for his 14.1 per cent stake sent the shares of the independent oil group soaring by 13p to 262p, after 265p.

By the close, a useful 10 million shares had changed hands. This latest flurry of activity was prompted by suggestions that Shearson Lehman Securities, the broker, had tried to place Sir Ron's 10 million shares in the market with institutions. Shearson is said to have denied this.

Arco, British Gas, Elf Aquitaine and even Consolidated Goldfields were all mentioned as potential suitors.

The story was also fuelled by reports from the Traded Options market where James Capel, the broker, was said to have been active. Dealers reported heavy call option business, centring on the January 255p and 275p series.

One sceptical dealer said: "We have heard all of the rumours before. Ultramar has announced a £130 million rights issue in September, to help finance the acquisition of the Wilmington Refinery in

Los Angeles and buyers feel that the time is right for a rally."

Cl-Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, the broker, says that the Ultramar share price is moving in a 230p to 270p range and is always worth buying at the bottom end of the range - even after stripping out the possibility of a bid.

Also in the oil sector, BP put on 3p to 250p as crude oil prices improved on hopes of an agreement at today's re-arranged Opec meeting. Sentiment was also helped by persistent buying in a market short of stock.

Elsewhere, equities drifted to stand 9.3 points down at one stage before rallying to finish 4.1 points off at 1,833.0. The narrower FT 30-share index closed 3.7 points down at 1,493.7.

Gilts nervously awaited the trade figures with falls ranging to 5p.

Storehouse recovered an early fall, helped by further bid speculation, to finish 1p higher at 214p as another 21 million shares were traded. A massive 64 million shares have now changed hands in three days.

The long-awaited decision by the Government on whether to place a multi-million pound order for a new generation of British Army tanks with Vickers was postponed for several weeks, leaving the shares a jittery 4p off at 176p.

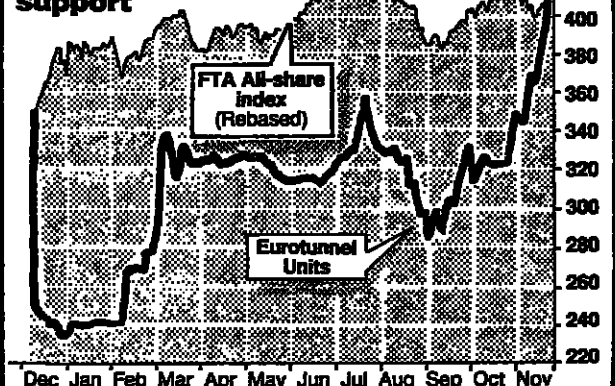
An order for the Challenger 2 battle tank, made by Vickers, could be worth more than £1 billion. On the other hand, if it goes elsewhere it

lower with investors unwilling to commit funds ahead of today's October trade figures. The market is hoping for a current account deficit of £1.2 billion, compared with the £560 million reported in September.

The mood was not helped by a £60 million sell programme by Warburg Securities, the broker, and the closure of Wall Street for the Thanksgiving Day celebrations.

The FT-SE 100-share index reacted from a steady opening

## EUROTUNNEL UNITS: persistent French support



alone, the ordinary have risen 74p and the warrants 94p.

French investors have been chasing the units sharply higher in thin trading.

Mr Rupert Darwell, an analyst with SBCI Savory Mills, the broker, says the French appear to have been caught up in the euphoria surrounding 1992.

But their British counterparts remain sceptical and have never really warmed to Eurotunnel following its disappointing flotation.

Mr Darwell says: "The institutions did not like it. They were suspicious. It was new and it was different - and it followed just after the crash."

## Index falls after series of records

(Reuter) - Prices closed lower yesterday after rising in the morning - ending a run of eight consecutive records for the main index. One broker said: "We seem to have just dried up. There is a lack of interest more than anything else and a holiday in the US does not help. I think it is a technical breather. You cannot go on in one direction forever."

The Nikkei index fell 90.09 points, or 0.31 per cent, to 29,340.03. It ended 145.86 higher on Tuesday at a record close of 29,430.12.

● Hong Kong - The Hang Seng index nudged through a 2,660.00 resistance level to close at 2,666.02 - up 32.37 - while the broader-based Hong Kong index rose 21.49 points to 1,756.87. Turnover, at HK\$1.62 billion (£113 million), was the highest since June 20.

● Frankfurt - The 30-share DAX index closed at 1,279.32, down 1.64 points. Ignoring a crop of good company results, shares sagged in lacklustre trading, with investors' resistance ahead of the month-end exacerbated by the weaker dollar, dealers said.

● Sydney - At the close of floor trading, the All-Ordinaries index was up 7.9 at 1,498.6. The All-Industrials index was up 12.7 at 2,482.0, the All-Resources index up 4.2 at 761.9.

Mr Darwell adds: "The company is expected to produce a huge dividend flow from the mid-1990s onward. The stock is supposed to continue to appreciate in order to anticipate the expected dividend flow."

He says that the investment case is sound but warns that the French end of the tunnel is behind schedule.

"If you accept that, then the units are fundamentally undervalued."

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

## Prices tumble on Opec deadlock

Oil prices fell on European markets yesterday, on news that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries had postponed its next, crucial, full meeting. The meeting is now due to start at 10 am today.

Brent crude closed at \$12.85, down 40 cents on the day - and 75 cents below the level reached on Tuesday after optimistic statements by several Opec ministers that an agreement by its 13 member states was imminent.

"The market came down on sentiment of uncertainty and frustration," said Mr Amine Soussane, a London-based trader. "Nobody can say what the outcome is to be, but the sentiment is less optimistic than yesterday."

The meeting continues to be deadlocked over Iraq's insistence on a higher production quota to match Iran's.

Opec officials say there is a

need for an agreement by all 13 states to stabilize world oil prices. Mr Ali Khalifa al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said without a full agreement the result could be catastrophic.

"If Opec does not come up with an agreement prices will collapse, and Opec will collapse with it," he said.

Mr Christopher Osborne-Moss, an investment analyst, said the delays "only show that there has never been a consensus for an agreement at this meeting."

Mr Osborne-Moss predicted that any agreement by the 13 would be short-lived, and would boost prices by \$2 to \$3 a barrel at most. "Everyone is in an entrenched position," he said.

"They all want to save face for the cartel, but they all want a higher production quota to make any sacrifices."

Opec officials say there is a

## Soviet exports to West rise by 12%

By Colin Narborough

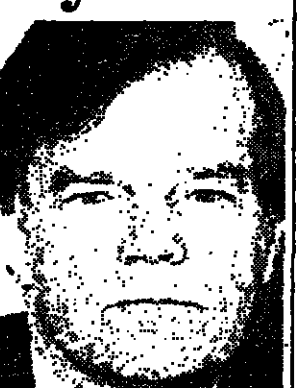
Soviet exports to the West, which will play a key role in President Mikhail Gorbachev's overhaul of the Soviet economy, showed a 12 per cent rise in the first half of this year, according to a report published today by the United Nations Commission for Europe (ECE).

The increase was accompanied by a 10 per cent rise in imports, as the Soviet bloc's trade with the West showed its first upturn in four years.

A group of leading City banks is meanwhile expected to finalize a £1 billion trade credit for Moscow in time for Mr Gorbachev's visit to Britain next month.

But despite Mr Gorbachev's drive to create a more market-orientated economy, the Geneva-based ECE remains uncertain about trade prospects.

The improved political climate, coupled with economic reforms, allowed the USSR's East European allies to increase their exports to the West by 6 per cent in the first six months. Imports, how-



Alan Clark: looking to USSR

ever, remained sluggish. The ECE regards continued expansion of East European exports as uncertain, given the underlying constraints, such as weaker prices for Soviet oil and gas, and efforts to avoid building up too much hard currency debt.

Although Mr Alan Clark, the Trade Minister, sees the Soviet Union as being the last big undeveloped consumer market, the Government has signalled that it is only prepared to do business with Moscow, not subsidize its reform programme.

## BR warns firms on quality

By Rodney Cowton

Transport Correspondent

Manufacturers of railway rolling stock and other equipment have been warned by British Rail that travellers will demand higher standards from their trains in the future.

Speaking at Bristol to an international conference on rail vehicles for passengers, Mr Chris Green, director of Network SouthEast, said research showed that customers' aspirations were rising.

If manufacturers wanted a share of the £1,000 million Network SouthEast is to invest in new trains and equipment, their designs and products would have to be reliable, attractive and cost-effective.

Attention to detail was vital, he said. "What wrecks the service is not the £15,000 traction motor, but the 15p micro switch that is not suited to its environment."

Among his requirements were low-cost customer information systems, affordable air conditioning, reliable sliding doors, and systems for monitoring and logging faults on trains.

## Glamor chief goes as profits dive

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Derek Guinness has resigned both as chairman and a director of Glamor Group, the women's tights company, where pre-tax profits have plunged from £514,000 in the half-way stage in 1987, when Glamor was a private com-

pany, to only £30,000 this time. Glamor's shares fell from 98p to 90p on the news. The company was brought to the market only in June last year when BZW, the broker, placed the shares at 178p each.

Although the directors are recommending a dividend of

2p for the period to September 23, they and their families, who hold 75 per cent of Glamor's shares, are waiving their entitlement. The company says that while it had publicly anticipated a downturn, it has been hit by "unforeseen circumstances."



Advertising agency director received salary of £622,000

# WCRS man tops pay league

Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor

Saatchi & Saatchi, the giant among advertising agencies, still dominates in size and as a profits earner — but for one year at any rate it no longer paid its top director the most.

WCRS, the former Wight Collins, heads the league for highest paid director with a top remuneration of £622,000 a year, according to the fifth annual profitability survey of advertising agencies compiled by Spicer & Oppenheim, the media and marketing services group.

Mr Maurice Saatchi, chairman of Saatchi, receives £500,000 compared with £298,000 the year before.

The survey does not identify the best paid directors because it is compiled from data in the latest company reports which in terms of identified individuals give only chairmen's salaries. WCRS's chairman Mr Robin Wright receives £172,000.

WCRS said last night that

## PUBLIC AGENCY GROUPS Profitability Rankings

	Adjusted shareholdings (%)	Turnover (%)	Profit per employee	Profitability ranking
Abbott Mead Vickers	2	6	1	3
Addison Consultancy Gp	11	2	7	5
Boase Massimi Pollitt	12	10	8	11
Bunning Group	8	13	13	13
Charles Barker	8	11	11	11
Davidson Pearce Group	5	8	12	9
Geers Gross	14	14	14	14
Gold Greenless Trot	3	3	2	1
Lopex	4	7	10	6
Low Howard Spink & Bell	7	9	5	6
Saatchi & Saatchi Co	10	12	5	10
WPP Group	13	5	4	8
Yellowhammer	1	4	3	9

Source: Spicer &amp; Oppenheim

the £622,000 during 1986-87 went to a director in the United States who had since left the company. The highest paid director now receives £200,000.

WCRS, which has seen a 287 per cent rise in pre-tax profit growth, is fourth in the league for such growth. Ahead of it were Holmes Knight Ritchie/WRG (up 300 per

cent), the Graham Poulter Partnership (369 per cent) and Edman Communications Group (1,160 per cent). Edman illustrates how quickly fortunes can change in a notoriously volatile sector — its growth was from a base of £20,000 in profits last year.

The Saatchi growth was 77 per cent, leaving it ninth in the profit increase league.



Maurice Saatchi: pay rise

But WCRS is not in the Saatchi class for the size of pre-tax profits. Saatchi turned in £124.1 million while WCRS was at £10.1 million. But WCRS had moved up from eighth to second place.

The rest of the top 10 for size measured by pre-tax profit were Lowe Howard Spink & Bell (£7.3 million), Addison Consultancy (£6.3

million), Boase Massimi Pollitt (£5 million), Barham Group (£4.5 million), Ogilvy and Mather Holdings — which is UK only — (£4.4 million), Davidson Pearce (£3.9 million), Lopex (£3.6 million) and Charles Barker (£3.4 million).

The survey covers 50 agencies but the 14 that are publicly quoted demonstrated another extremely successful year with a 70 per cent increase in aggregate pre-tax profits to £200 million, which follows an 80 per cent rise the previous year. Much of the past year's increase came from takeovers and mergers with shareholders' funds suffering as acquiring companies wrote off goodwill.

The shareholder funds for the quoted agencies fell 62 per cent to £61 million. Average profit margins rose to 2.2 per cent from 2 per cent.

*How Advertising Agencies Made Their Profits in 1987-88* £70 from Spicer & Oppenheim, Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3.

## COMMENT K stands for confusion over water flotation

If the Government gets its algebra right, investors and health-conscious consumers should be on the same side in the water privatization debate. Improving water quality, securing extra supplies and combating sewage pollution will all require heavy investment, on which efficient monopolies should earn guaranteed returns. Even metering would fall into this attractive regime.

That prospect has enticed the highly professional French groups to pay prices for private statutory water companies that would translate into a value of around £7 billion for the 10 privatized authorities, rather than the £5.5 billion previously viewed as the starting point. But there is a problem.

This would mean fast-rising prices for consumers because future investment would be heavy compared with the historic value of existing working assets. Yet Nicholas Ridley suggests prices may only rise by 7.5 to 12.5 per cent in real terms by the end of the century to pay for everything except metering and extra European demands as yet unknown.

That would imply the Government setting modest standards requiring relatively moderate investment — or low returns. In that case, the authorities might indeed have the boring image, with a little spice from land values, that seemed likely before the French opened the City's eyes.

At this stage, the only certainty is that the Government will effectively determine the future of the authorities in advance. The apparently simple water price control formula of RPI +/- K, to be set separately for each of the ten authorities and 28 companies by Ofwat, hides hideous complexity of planning, accounting and interaction between different controlling bureaucracies.

The constant K will include judgements of investment needs, required rates of return, as well as extra running costs, the cost of the National Rivers Authority and putative efficiency savings. It will also be set for 10 years in advance, with a possible review at half time.

Ofwat will therefore have to agree in advance 10 year corporate plans and detailed investment programmes for all 38 before flotation or conversion to plc status. Quite how it will cope with the crucial variable of interest rates and what it will set as a reasonable rate of return are among many questions yet to be answered.

Beside that, the issues of golden shares and takeovers are less important. But the French entry will surely create an unstable structure. They will probably become equivalent to medium-sized authorities in terms of water sales;

Lyonnais already looks like being bigger than four of the authorities. But they will be kept out of the financial equally important sewerage side of the business unless takeovers are permitted.

Large teams of engineers, accountants, merchant bankers, valuers and civil servants, not to forget the authorities themselves, are working flat out. But the flotation will be the most technically complex ever staged anywhere and Ofwat will not even have a director-general before the new year. The parliamentary schedule is tight too, though appears to have been carefully planned. No wonder some sceptical folk in both the water and electricity industries are already wondering whether the flotation will meet the autumn 1989 deadline needed to clear the way for electricity.

## Wisdom of Solomon

It is rather indelicate on the day the Government published the Water Privatization Bill to ask whether privatization works or not. But that is what Matthew Bishop and John Kay of the London Business School have done.

Worse, they conclude that it does not. Or, more precisely, they find no evidence that the change of ownership from the public sector to the private sector by itself makes much difference.

Yes, there have been sizeable productivity gains in the former nationalized industries during the 1980s. But many occurred before privatization. The biggest overall gains have taken place in British Steel which has yet to cross the Rubicon. Nor is there much evidence of improvements in quality of service.

It may be, of course, that it was only the spur of privatization which induced the Government, or the industries themselves, to get these leviathans into a saleable condition. Arguably, it is also still early days to judge the effect of new ownership on their operation now that they are in the private sector. Even monopolies need to compete for capital and to that extent there is a greater discipline in the private sector than in the public.

Messrs Bishop and Kay are surely right, however, that competition rather than ownership is the key to better performance. To that extent, the blueprint for a private-sector water industry is not altogether reassuring. The structure chosen for electricity is more promising, subject to seeing the fine print of the Bill, due next week. But the wisdom of Solomon is still likely to be required from the regulator.

## Rolls wins £550m contract

By Our Industrial Editor

Rolls-Royce, the aero engine maker, will benefit by about £550 million for its part in developing the EJ200 turbofan engine which is to power the new generation European fighter aircraft.

A contract for the development of the engine has gone to Eurojet, the four-nation aero engine group in which Rolls-Royce has a third stake. The other companies are Italy's Fiat Aviazione, West Germany's MTU and Spain's Sener.

The engine development consortium is being partnered on the aircraft development side by Eurofighter, the four-company group in which British Aerospace has a stake.

On the whole project including the engines about £5 billion is being invested in development but about another £15 billion will be spent on aircraft which will go into service.

Two of the first prototypes will be powered by an RB199-122 engine being built by Rolls-Royce, MTU and Fiat. For the EJ200 Rolls-Royce will be running the first compressor and turbine at its Bristol test plant.

## Blenheim pre-tax soars to £4m

MARC ASPLAND



Acquisitions on the mind: Neville Buch, left, and Lawrie Lewis yesterday

By Martin Waller

The Blenheim Exhibitions Group, Europe's biggest and only quoted trade exhibition and conference organizer, has unveiled pre-tax profits of £4.08 million in the year to end-August.

The group's heavy acquisition programme, with 15 companies bought since its USM launch two years ago, makes comparisons difficult, but in the previous financial year it made £1.43 million.

Mr Lawrie Lewis, the chief executive, said Blenheim was managing organic growth of between 30 per cent and 40 per cent a year.

Next year it is set to become the only USM company to have an overseas quote, with about 5 per cent of the company to be listed on the Paris Bourse's second market. This may coincide with a further French acquisition, said Mr Neville Buch, the chairman.

In August Blenheim took its biggest step into continental Europe with the purchase of Padco and Bernard Becker Communications in France, and overseas expansion is set to continue.

A final dividend of 5.6p doubles the total payout to 8p. Analysts expect a pre-tax of £9m for the current year.

## £6m components buy for Beacon

By Our City Staff

Beacon Group is buying Jessor Holdings, a precision components manufacturer, for £6 million and is also selling its housewares division, owning the Mellerware and Sona brand names, to Glen Electric, a subsidiary of Glen Dimplex, for about £3.8 million.

The consideration for the acquisition will be satisfied by the issue of 13.95 million new shares in Beacon, whose shareholders are being offered the chance to buy up to 11.86 million at 43p each.

Beacon's board says that the housewares division would be

unable to generate an acceptable level of return to justify the finance needed to develop new products and promote the brand names.

The cash realized from its sale will assist Beacon in pursuing its development through further acquisitions and organic growth in industrial operations.

The progress reported in the interim statement has continued in the group's manufacturing activities, the company says. The board intends to recommend a dividend for the year of 1.5p.

## Dawsongroup set for market debut

By Our City Staff

Dawsongroup, Britain's largest Volvo truck dealership, is coming to the stock market via a share placing that values the business at almost £55 million.

More than 8.8 million shares, representing about 20 per cent of the group, are being placed with institutions, raising £18 million after expenses.

Dawsongroup, which started life as a road haulage business in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, in 1935, was rebranded a Volvo truck distributor in 1971. It now

consists of three divisions, of which the biggest, Dawsonrentals, accounts for 70 per cent of group pre-tax profit.

The group plans to move to a new site in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, in 1990 at a cost of about £6 million.

Mr Peter Dawson, the chairman, says a listing will "raise the company's profile and enhance our status." It would also give the group more flexible finance.

Dealings in the shares, which will cost 154p each, are expected to start next Thursday.

## Cambrian & General in the red

Cambrian & General Securities, the investment trust, made a net loss of £151,000 in the year to September 30 compared to profits of £9.6 million the previous year.

Much of the downturn was flagged at the half-way stage and is largely made up of dealing losses by the company's subsidiary Farnsworth and Hastings. A dividend payment by Farnsworth is being kept in the company.

Cambrian is declaring a dividend of 5.85p (nil).

**Scantronic up** Scantronic Holdings, the alarms and security group, showed a jump in pre-tax profits for the six months to end-September from £928,000 to £1.43 million. Earnings per share are 3.23p (2.55p) and an interim dividend of 0.55p (0.43p) was declared.

**Chancery leap** Chancery, the merchant banking group, has reported a jump in pre-tax profits for the six months to end-September from £1.85 million to £3.06 million. The interim dividend rises from 1.8p to 2.5p. Earnings per share are up from 6.6p to 10.3p.

**Scotch deal** Whyte and Mackay, the Scotch whisky distiller, has made an agreed offer for William Muir (Bond 9), Scotland's largest independent bottling and packaging firm with a £5.5 million turnover. Terms were not disclosed.

**Booker buy** Booker, the food and health products group, has acquired County Catering Company, of Hull, with annual sales of £5.5 million. The price was not disclosed.

**Just Juice sold** Ranks Hovis McDougall has bought Adam Foods' fruit juice business, Just Juice, for £10.5 million in cash. Stocks of £1.5 million are included.

**Lord Spens** Under conditions of bail granted to Lord Patrick Spens, it was agreed that he should have no contact with any present employee of Henry Ansbacher in relation to Guinness. The ban does not extend to all contact, contrary to our recent report.

## Waddington rises to £9.2m

By Our City Staff

Problems in packaging, its largest division, hit interim profits at John Waddington, best known for its Monopoly and Cluedo games, in the six months to end-September.

A shortage of skilled labour at both the Comet Products business in the US and Johnsen and Jorgensen Plastics in Britain, combined with rising raw material prices, clipped about £1 million off

pre-tax profits. These were 11.5 per cent ahead at £9.2 million.

Property disposals contributed £850,000 in the first half, with a similar amount due for the rest of the year.

The interim dividend is raised by 0.3p to 3.4p.

Waddington believes it has solved the problem at Comet with the acquisition, for £12 million (£6.5 million), of Cin-

cinnati-based Hopple Plastics, its third purchase in the US.

Waddington's specialized printing division is also paying £1.63 million for Data Documents Europe, which supplies computer stationery.

The games side managed to raise trading profits by almost 3 per cent despite falling sales, due to a concentration on higher-value product.

Tempos page 26

## Unigate's son of the soil

John Kerridge, who has held the top job at Fisons for the last eight years, has become a non-executive director of Unigate. His connection with the St Ivel and Farmers Wife group started with his meeting John Clement, Unigate's chairman, when they both served as directors on the Securities and Investments Board. They discovered that they had been neighbours in Suffolk for years. Clement tells me that he invited Kerridge to join Unigate's team of non-executive directors because he was impressed by the Fisons man's skill at turning the company round since he took over as chief executive in 1980. "From a straightforward fertilizer group, he has turned it into so much more and with a profits record to match," Clement says. "In addition, I believe non-executive directors should have experience of running a business. John also brings a new age group into the team, as some of our other directors are getting older." Kerridge started his career at Cadbury, and followed up with jobs at Lyons, Rothmans and Hotpoint before joining Fisons as head of the fertilizer marketing division. He currently holds a non-executive directorship of Legal & General and is on the board of Ransomes Sims & Jeffries. But he clearly knows his priorities: he once told a colleague that his most arduous task was a directorship of Ipswich Town FC.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### New-look newsagent

After 16 years of handing out those distinctive orange, white and brown plastic carrier bags, WH Smith has done the decent thing and changed its look in time for Christmas. Sherratt & Hughes, Smith's up-market book chain, is also getting a new bag for Christmas. This boasts a reproduction of the 17th century French artist Louis le Nain's *Adoration of the Shepherds*, currently hanging in the National

Gallery. And the group's record shop chain, Our Price, has held a competition to find a new face for its carrier bags. But despite the influence of Sir Simon Hornby, the group's chairman who is also in charge of the Design Council, it is said to report that Smith's new plastic bag, handed over to 135 million customers a year, is of the thin, scrunchy variety and is no more appealing than the old stuff.

### Red sales

Not everyone goes along with the furore surrounding the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau, or the hyping of prices that is accompanying it. (Simpsons-in-the-Strand is

selling bottles which retail at £2.85 for £10.20.) Like many others, the owner of a wine bar in London's Clerkenwell has a sign in his window reading: "Beaujolais Nouveau. It est arrivé." However, he has appended the words: "You may drink it, but I cook with it." The owner prides himself on the quality of the wines he offers his customers. His list of Beaujolais vintages pointedly leaves out the 1988, so perhaps his customers are learning. Last year he sold, reluctantly, seven cases of the new stuff. This year he has sold just two bottles.

Japan's All Nippon Airways has come up with a novel way of reducing mid-air collisions with birds. It paints giant eyeballs on the turbine fans of its Boeing 747s and 767s. Since it hit on the idea in 1985, the expensive collisions have fallen by 20 per cent.

## Heady for figures

The tendency for graduates of the late 1980s to go in for safe, steady, well-paid jobs is unlikely to slow down, following confirmation that a 25-year-old newly qualified chartered accountant can command £25,000 a year, plus benefits, in central London. But according to a recent survey by Accountancy Personnel, a recruitment agency, rapid pay increases in this sector are coming to an end. Recruitment demands by financial institutions have fallen since the crash, and salary increases for graduate trainees, who earn between £8,500 and £11,000 in large London firms, have reached a plateau, so remuneration at small and medium-sized practices may catch up. Meanwhile, certified and management accountants' salaries are now running alongside those of their chartered colleagues. You have been warned.

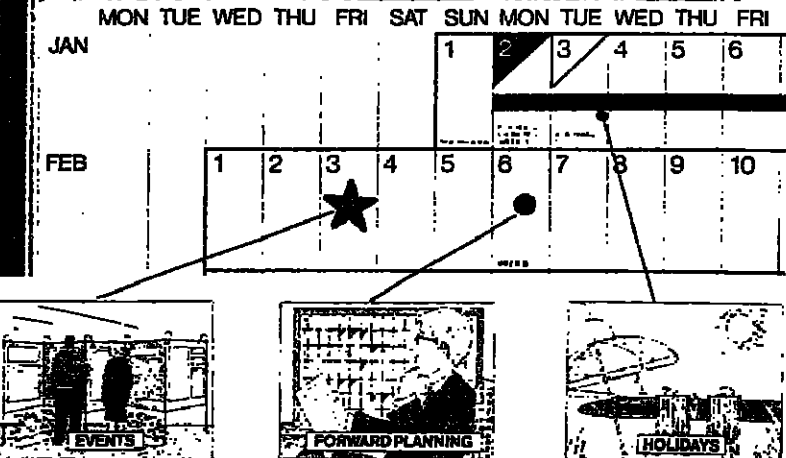
### Dim view

A malapropism from Neville Buch, head of the fast-growing Blenheim Exhibitions Group, may give some clue as to how even the most well-mannered company chairman really views his City inquirers. Introducing Patrick Lecêtre, Blenheim's new French partner, to analysts yesterday, he explained that although Lecêtre spoke excellent English he had brought an interpreter with him "in case the questions become too obtuse" — fortunately none of the absurd scribbles appeared to hear.

Rosemary Unsworth

## Picture your year at a glance

### SASCO Year Planner 1989



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# Year in, year out, Cadbury Schweppes' management gets bigger returns from Down Under.

Over the last few years Cadbury Schweppes' business has been booming in Australia and New Zealand.

Pre-tax profits have risen at a compound annual rate of around 20%. And as if that weren't enough, return on average assets employed has consistently improved to nearly 34% in 1987.

So just how has this excellent growth record been achieved?

In a word, consistency.

Cadbury Schweppes simply applied exactly the same principles Down Under that the Group's management operates over the rest of the world.

## A Capital Idea.

One of the first steps was investment. Capital expenditure over the last five years has totalled a cool A\$155 million. As a result of this policy significant improvements in efficiency and productivity have been achieved.

This in turn helped to liberate funds for marketing investment with the objective of strengthening the existing brand portfolio and providing a firmer foundation for even more growth.

However, organic development is not the only way to grow.

## Good Buys.

Cadbury Schweppes' management went shopping, and with some success.

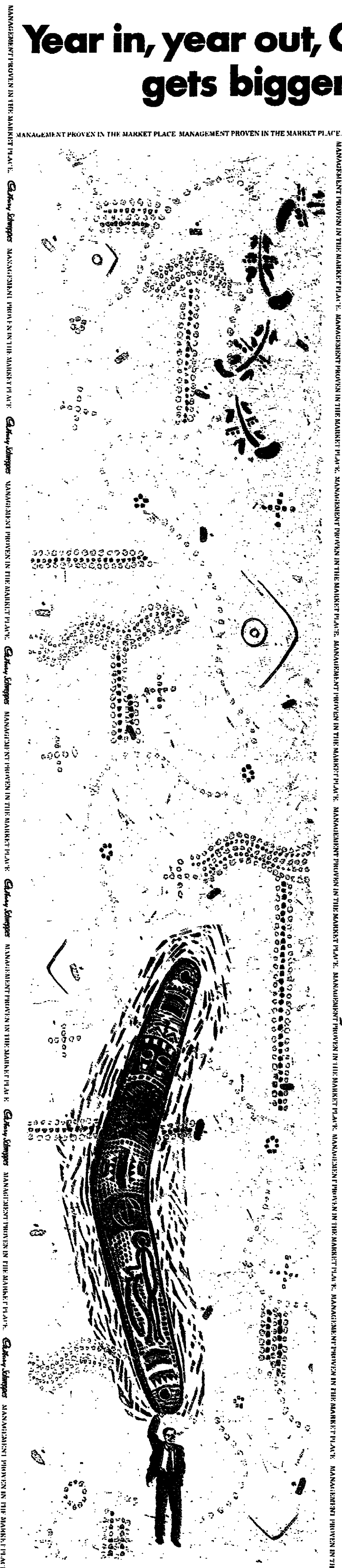
First, the Beatrice operation acquired last year, followed by the Woodroffe soft drinks business. Both acquisitions coming complete with the all important strong local brands.

As Cadbury Schweppes p.l.c. Chief Executive, Dominic Cadbury says, "Profit growth has continued in the first half of 1988 and Australia is just one example of how management is making the Group's assets work harder for its shareholders".

**Cadbury Schweppes**

MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE

MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE. MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE.









# S

## British Steel plc

### Offer for Sale by Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited on behalf of The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Under the Offer for Sale in the UK and separate offerings in the US, Canada, Japan and continental Europe  
2,000,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 50p each are being offered at  
125p per Share of which 60p is payable now and 65p is payable by 26 September 1989.

The following information is to be read in conjunction with the full prospectus dated 23 November 1988, which alone comprises approved listing particulars relating to British Steel. Expressions defined in the full prospectus have the same meanings herein. The full prospectus has also been published in the *Financial Times* and *The Daily Telegraph* on Friday, 25 November 1988. In addition, copies of the full prospectus are available as described below. You are advised to read the full prospectus before completing and returning an application form. If you need advice, you should consult your bank manager, stockbroker or other financial adviser.

#### APPLICATIONS

Applications must be received by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 2 December 1988. In applying for Shares you will be treated as applying on the basis both of the full prospectus and of 'Terms and Conditions of Application' set out below, which together govern your rights and obligations.

Only one application may be made for the benefit of any person, except for: (a) any other application which you are entitled to make as an employee of British Steel on a blue application form for the Free and Matching Offers for employees; or (b) an application made for your benefit, without your knowledge, by a Personal Equity Plan Manager. Criminal proceedings may be instituted against anyone knowingly making or authorising or causing an application to be made in breach of this rule.

Multiple applications, or those appearing to be, or suspected of being, multiple applications, are liable to be rejected at the discretion of the Secretary of State. Under 'Terms and Conditions of Application', applicants can be required to provide details of any persons for whose benefit they have applied.

Photocopies of application forms will not be accepted in any circumstances. Once made, applications may not be withdrawn.

Your attention is drawn to 'Terms and Conditions of Application' and in particular to paragraph 3(k), which excludes liability for information not in the full prospectus or in the mini prospectus published in connection with the Offer for Sale.

Before completing an application form, you should read carefully the accompanying guide to completing it.

#### APPLICATIONS FROM OUTSIDE THE UK

No person receiving a copy of the full prospectus and/or an application form in any territory other than the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such application form, unless in the relevant territory such an invitation and offer could lawfully be made to him without compliance with any unfilled registration or other legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or subject to the laws of any overseas jurisdiction, who receives a copy of the full prospectus and/or an application form and who wants to make an application, to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of the relevant territory in connection therewith, including the obtaining of any governmental or other consents and compliance with other necessary formalities, and to pay any transfer or other taxes or duties required to be paid in such territory in respect of the Shares acquired by him under the Combined Offer.

#### US OR CANADIAN PERSONS

No application may be made or will be accepted on any public application form from or on behalf of a US or Canadian person. A 'US or Canadian person' means any individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States of America (including the states and the District of Columbia) or its territories or possessions or other areas subject to its jurisdiction ('US') or a resident of Canada or any corporation, partnership or other entity created or organised in or under the laws of the US or Canada and any estate or trust the income of which is subject to US or Canadian federal income taxation regardless of its source. A US or Canadian person shall include: (i) in the case of any such corporation or firm any branch thereof outside the US or Canada; (ii) any investment fund, estate or trust organised under or governed by the laws of the US or Canada or any political sub-division thereof, including any fund managed on a discretionary basis outside the US or Canada by such a US or Canadian person; and (iii) any US or Canadian branch of any corporation or firm established or incorporated outside the US or Canada, as the case may be, but, notwithstanding the foregoing, a Canadian person shall not include any branch of a Canadian person outside Canada in connection with the management by such Canadian person of funds of any individual resident outside Canada or any corporation, firm, pension, profit sharing or investment fund, estate or other trust or other entity organised under or governed by the laws of a jurisdiction other than Canada or any political sub-division thereof.

#### ALLOCATIONS AND DEALINGS

The basis of allocation of the Shares is expected to be announced by 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 5 December 1988. If your application is successful, in whole or in part, a renounceable letter of acceptance for the Shares allocated to you is expected to be despatched to you on 12 December 1988. If there is heavy demand for the Shares, you may receive fewer Shares than you apply for or, in some cases, none at all. If your application is not accepted, all money paid on application will be returned (without interest). If your application is accepted in part, you will receive (without interest) a refund cheque for the balance of the money paid on application.

The right is reserved to reject, in whole or in part, or scale down, any application. No allocation or allocations in excess of 15% of the Shares being offered under the Combined Offer will be made to any one person or group of persons acting in concert.

Dealings are expected to commence in London at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 5 December 1988. Applicants who deal before receipt of a letter of acceptance will do so at their own risk.

#### PAYMENT

The right is reserved to present for payment all cheques and bankers' drafts on receipt, but this will be avoided so far as practicable in respect of applications for which it is not expected to make an allocation, unless they are, or appear to be, or are suspected of being, multiple applications. It is a condition of the Offer for Sale that all cheques must be honoured on first presentation and no interest will be paid on any moneys held on behalf of the Secretary of State.

#### INSTALLMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Offer Price is 125p per Share, of which 60p is payable on application and 65p by 3.00 p.m. on 26 September 1989. The price of Shares taken up by eligible employees under the Matching Offer is payable in full on application.

Until payment of the final instalment, the Shares sold on instalment terms will be registered, pursuant to an Instalment Agreement, in the name of Lloyds Bank Plc as the Custodian Bank. In the first instance entitlements will be evidenced by renounceable letters of acceptance, which will be superseded in due course by Interim Certificates issued by Lloyds Bank Plc.

You will be sent a reminder (call notice) in advance of the date when the final instalment becomes payable. At the time the call notice for the final instalment is sent (it is due to be sent on 1 September 1989), you will also be sent an Interim Certificate to replace the temporary document of title (a letter of acceptance or initial Interim Certificate) despatched following the Offer for Sale. After payment of the final instalment (due by 26 September 1989) entitlements to Shares will be evidenced by reciprocated Interim Certificates or Fully Paid Interim Certificates and you will be sent your definitive share certificate shortly after that date.

The call notice and Interim Certificate will be sent to your address on the Register. You should therefore promptly notify any change of address, following the instructions set out on the letters of acceptance and on the Interim Certificates.

If you sell your entitlement to Shares before the final instalment has been paid in respect of them, the purchaser will become liable for the final instalment once the renunciation or transfer has been registered.

If you are liable for the final instalment and you do not pay it when due, the Secretary of State may (without prejudice to his other rights) resell your Shares. If these Shares are resold, you will be sent a refund, without interest, equal to 60p per Share resold less any loss incurred by the Secretary of State determined in accordance with the Instalment Agreement. However, no payment of less than £2 will be made to you. The Secretary of State may in his discretion accept late payment, but he may do so on the basis that you pay default interest as set out in the Instalment Agreement and/or such other amount as the Secretary of State may specify.

The Instalment Agreement is summarised in the full prospectus.

#### AVAILABILITY OF THE PROSPECTUS

Copies of the full prospectus and of the mini prospectus may be obtained, until the Offer for Sale closes, from:

(i) all branches of Lloyds Bank Plc, main branches of National Westminster Bank PLC and Bank of Scotland and, in Northern Ireland, all branches of Bank of Ireland;

(ii) the underwriters listed at the beginning of the full prospectus; and

(iii) the brokers to the Offer and to the Company at the addresses set out below:

**Brokers to the Offer**

Rowe & Pitman Ltd., 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA.

**Brokers to the Company**

Phillips & Drew Securities Limited, 120 Moorgate, London EC2M 6XP.

Copies of the full prospectus may also be obtained from the registered office of the Company and from the Company Announcements Office, The Stock Exchange, 46 Finsbury Square, London EC2 2UT on Friday, 2 December 1988.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has authorised the issue of this document under section 154 (1)(b) of the Financial Services Act 1986 without approving the contents.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

1. Acceptance of applications will be conditional on: (i) the admission of the whole of the ordinary share capital of the Company to the Official List of The Stock Exchange becoming effective by not later than 3 January 1989; and (ii) the UK Underwriting Agreement referred to in section 17 of Part XI of the full prospectus dated 23 November 1988 comprising listing particulars relating to the Company ('the Prospectus') having become unconditional and not being terminated prior to such date as the Secretary of State may determine, being not later than 3 January 1989. Application moneys will be returned (without interest) if either of these conditions is not satisfied and, in the meantime, if presented for payment, will be kept by the receiving banks appointed in respect of the Offer for Sale ('the receiving banks') in separate accounts within the receiving banks or the Bank of England. The right is reserved for the Secretary of State and his agents to present for payment and otherwise process all remittances at any time after receipt thereof and to have full access to all information relating to, or deriving from, such remittances and the processing thereof. The right is also reserved to treat as valid any application not completed in all respects in accordance with the instructions accompanying the relevant application form.

2. Words and expressions defined in the Prospectus have the same meanings in these terms and conditions and in the application forms, including the public application form, unless the context otherwise requires. Where these terms and conditions are inconsistent with the express terms of an application form, the terms and conditions of that application form shall prevail in relation to an application made on that form.

3. By completing and delivering an application form, you:

(a) offer to purchase from the Secretary of State the number of Shares specified in your application form (the application is accepted if the application is accepted and you agree that you will accept such Shares as may be allocated to you, in each case on the terms of, and subject to, the conditions set out in, the Prospectus, the Instalment Agreement and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company and agree to become a party to, and be bound by all relevant provisions of, the Instalment Agreement;

(b) as a collateral contract between you and the Secretary of State which will become binding on posting to, or (in the case of delivery in any other manner) receipt by, a receiving bank of your application and in consideration of the Secretary of State agreeing that he will not, prior to 3 January 1989, offer any of the Shares to any person other than by means of one of the procedures referred to in the Prospectus;

(i) agree that your application cannot be revoked prior to 3 January 1989; and

(ii) warrant that your remittance will be honoured on first presentation and agree that any letter of acceptance and any moneys returnable may be held pending clearance of your payment and will not bear interest;

(c) agree that all applications, acceptances of applications and contracts resulting therefrom under the Offer for Sale shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and, for the benefit of each of the addressees of the application form, you submit to the jurisdiction of the English courts;

(d) warrant that:

(i) if the application is made for your own benefit, no other application (other than any application which you are entitled to make on a blue application form) is being made for your benefit by you or by anyone applying as your agent (other than a Personal Equity Plan Manager) or, to your knowledge, by a Personal Equity Plan Manager or by any other person;

(ii) if the application is made by you as agent for, or for the benefit of, another person, no other application is being made by you (other than on a blue application form) as agent for or for the benefit of that person or, to your knowledge, by that person or by any other person;

(iii) if you sign the application form purporting to be the agent for someone else, you have due authority to do so on behalf of that other person and undertake to enclose your power of attorney or a copy thereof certified by a solicitor, where this is required by the guide to completing the application form; and

(iv) if your application, together with any other application, were accepted in full, you would not be interested (as defined in Article 46(A) of the Articles of Association of the Company) in 300,000,000 Shares (representing 15% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company) or more. If you are a party to any agreement or arrangement which could be the subject of a resolution of the Directors pursuant to Article 46(E) of the Articles of Association of the Company, Article 46(E)(i) shall be deemed to apply without the necessity for a resolution of the Directors that such an agreement exists, and consequently you will be deemed, for the purposes of this warranty, to be interested in all Shares which are the subject of applications by persons who are party to such agreement;

(e) agree that, in respect of those Shares for which your application has been received and processed and is not rejected, acceptance of your application shall be constituted, at the election of the Secretary of State, either: (i) by notification to The Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case such acceptance shall be on that basis) or (ii) by notification of acceptance thereof to the relevant receiving bank;

(f) authorise the relevant receiving bank and the Custodian Bank (i) to procure that your name (and the names) of any joint applicant(s) is (are) placed on the register of holders of Interim Rights in respect of such Shares the entitlement to which has not been effectively renounced (and in these terms and conditions, references to rights being effectively renounced mean the renouncee(s) being registered by a receiving bank in relation to such right(s)) and (ii) thereafter, to procure that your name (and the names) of any joint applicant(s) is (are) placed on the register of members of the Company in respect of such Shares the right to which has not been effectively transferred;

(g) authorise the relevant receiving bank and the Custodian Bank to send a letter of acceptance for the number of Shares for which your application is accepted and/or a cheque for any money returnable by post to you at your address (or, in the case of joint applicants, the address of the first-named person) as set out in the application form and agree that all documents in connection with the Offer for Sale and/or any money returnable or refundable will be sent at your risk;

(h) (i) agree that time of payment by you shall be of the essence of each contract constituted by acceptance of your application;

(ii) agree that if your remittance in respect of the first instalment payable on any Share is not honoured on first presentation, (without prejudice to any obligations you may have under the Instalment Agreement) you will not, as against the Secretary of State, be entitled: (a) to receive a letter of acceptance in respect of that Share; (b) to become a Registered Holder in respect of that Share; or (c) to enjoy or receive any rights or distributions in respect of that Share unless and until you make payment in cleared funds in respect of that Share and such payment is accepted by the Secretary of State (which acceptance shall be in his absolute discretion and may be on the basis that you pay default interest as set out in the Instalment Agreement and/or such other amount as the Secretary of State may specify), and that at any time prior to acceptance by the Secretary of State of such late payment in respect of that Share the Secretary of State may (without prejudice to his other rights) avoid the agreement to sell that Share and may resell that Share to some other person, in which case you will not be entitled to any refund or payment in respect of that Share;

(iii) undertake to pay the final instalment by, and (in the case of any payment of £10,000 or more) for value not later than 3.00 p.m. on 26 September 1989, for each Share in respect of which your application is accepted and the right to which has not been effectively renounced or transferred in accordance with the Instalment Agreement by you prior to that time and date; and

(iv) agree that failure to make payment of the final instalment when due on any Share will entitle the Secretary of State (without prejudice to his other rights) to avoid the agreement to sell that Share and to resell that Share to some other person, in which case you will be sent a refund, without interest, equal to 60p (subject to adjustment in the event of a capitalisation issue) per Share resold less any loss (including expenses of resale) incurred by the Secretary of State determined in accordance with the Instalment Agreement. However, no payment of less than £2 will be made to you;

(i) warrant that you are not a US or Canadian person and are not applying for the benefit of, or with a view to resale to, any such person;

(j) agree that, without prejudice to any other rights to which you may be entitled, you will not be entitled to exercise any remedy of rescission for innocent misrepresentation at any time after acceptance of your application;

(k) confirm that, in making your application, you are not relying on any information or representation in relation to or affecting British Steel or the Combined Offer or the Offer for Sale, other than information and representations contained in the Prospectus or in the mini prospectus published in connection with the Offer for Sale taken together with the Prospectus ('the prospectuses'), and accordingly you agree that no person responsible for the prospectuses, or any part thereof, shall have any liability for any such information or representation other than as aforesaid;

(l) agree that such application form is addressed to the Secretary of State, Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited, Lloyds Bank Plc and the Company and that the benefit of paragraph (k) above shall extend to the persons referred to therein;

(m) agree promptly on request to disclose in writing to the Secretary of State any information which he may request in connection with your application;

(n) agree that any letter of acceptance and application moneys in respect of any applicant suspected to be in breach of paragraph (d) above may be held (without interest) pending investigation; and

(o) agree that if this application is made on behalf of another person by his/her attorney, that other person shall also be bound by these terms and conditions.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURN OF THE PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

Send your completed application form by post (or deliver it by hand) to arrive not later than 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 2 December 1988 at the appropriate address immediately below according to the first letter of your surname (or corporate name) inserted in Box 1.

<b>A to G</b>	<b>Bank of Scotland,</b> New Issues Department, Apex House, 9 Haddington Place, Edinburgh EH7 4AL, or by hand only, to: New Issues, 38 Threadneedle Street, London EC2P 2EH	<b>F to Z</b>	<b>National Westminster Bank PLC,</b> New Issues Department, P.O. Box No. 33, 153-157 Commercial Road, London E1 2DB, or by hand only, to: 2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD
<b>H to O</b>	<b>Lloyds Bank Plc,</b> Registrar's Department, Issue Section, P.O. Box 1000, 11 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3LB	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>YOU ARE ADVISED TO USE FIRST CLASS POST AND TO ALLOW AT LEAST TWO WORKING DAYS FOR DELIVERY.</b> </div>	

#### Additional receiving centres

(open only for deliveries by hand and only until 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 2 December 1988)

Lloyds Bank Plc	National Westminster Bank PLC	Bank of Scotland
<b>Birmingham</b> 125 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 8AD	<b>Bristol</b> 32 Corn Street, Bristol, Avon BS99 7UG	<b>Aberdeen</b> 53 Castle Street, Aberdeen AB9 8AJ
<b>Jersey</b> 9 Broad Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands	<b>Cardiff</b> 117 St. Mary Street, Cardiff CF1 1LG	<b>Edinburgh</b> 38 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YR
<b>Leeds</b> 6/7 Park Row, Leeds LS1 1NX	<b>Guernsey</b> 55 High Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands	<b>Glasgow</b> 110 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5EJ
<b>Norwich</b> 16 Gentleman's Walk, Norwich NR2 1LZ	<b>Liverpool</b> 22 Castle Street, Liverpool L69 2BE	<b>Inverness</b> 9 High Street, Inverness IV1 1JB
<b>Nottingham</b> Old Market Square, Nottingham NG1 6FD	<b>Manchester</b> 55 King Street, Manchester M60 2DB	<b>Newcastle upon Tyne</b> 62-68 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6AF
<b>Southampton</b> 19/21 High Street, Southampton SO9 7AN	<b>Plymouth</b> St. Andrews Cross, Plymouth, Devon PL4 0AE	<b>Bank of Ireland</b> Belfast 54 Donegall Place, Belfast BT1 5BX







## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

[illegible]

### THIRD MARKET

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES										
Open					Open					
FT-SE 100	High	Low	Close	Vol	US Treasury Bond	High	Low	Close	Vol	
Dec 88	184.30	184.80	183.30	184.10	1420					
Mar 89	190.70	188.70	186.50	186.00	190					
Three Month Sterling					US Treasury Bond					
Dec 88	97.74	97.74	97.74	4822	Mar 89	97.21	96.94	97.21	13755	
Mar 89	97.85	97.85	97.85	140	Jun 89	97.21	97.21	97.22	10	
Dec 88	87.89	87.89	87.83	67.88	140	Lohn G&K				
Mar 89	88.26	88.26	88.26	41	Dec 88	95.95	95.97	95.91	94220	
Dec 88	90.36	90.36	90.36	90.36	41	Mar 89	96.00	95.98	96.23	12176
Mar 89	90.37	90.37	90.37	90.37	140	Jun 89	97.20	97.22	97.24	200
Three Month Eurodollar					Japanese Gov Bond					
Dec 88	90.72	90.72	90.69	90.69	632	Dec 88	107.45	107.61	107.35	1023
Mar 89	90.90	90.90	90.88	90.87	140	Mar 89	107.45	107.61	107.35	1023
Dec 88	90.67	90.67	90.67	90.67	140	German Gov Bond				
Mar 89	90.79	90.79	90.77	90.76	165	Dec 88	97.72	97.77	97.77	1652
						Mar 89	98.72	98.91	98.91	179

## COMMODITIES

and the USA with bank of prices also

## FUTURES

LONDON FOX									
COCOA					G W JINCO				
Dec 88	885-884			Dec 89	390-390				
Mar 89	902-881			Mar 90	390-390				
Dec 88	902-881			Dec 88	390-390				
Mar 89	902-881			Mar 89	390-390				
COFFEE					G W JINCO				
Dec 88	1008-1062			Dec 88	1074-1078				
Mar 89	1062-1062			Mar 89	1074-1078				
Dec 88	1074-1078			Dec 88	1074-1078				
Mar 89	1074-1078			Mar 89	1074-1078				
SUGAR					WAL				
Dec 88	1062-1062			Dec 88	1062-1062				
Mar 89	1062-1062			Mar 89	1062-1062				
FOD					WAL				
Dec 88	255-0-80.0			Dec 88	255-0-80.0				
Mar 89	255-0-80.0			Mar 89	255-0-80.0				
LONDON GRAIN					WAL				
Dec 88	242-4-18.8			Dec 88	242-4-18.8				
Mar 89	242-4-18.8			Mar 89	242-4-18.8				

## LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (cwt #2)					WHEAT (cwt #2)				
Dec 88	117-11.0			Dec 88	117-11.0				
Mar 89	117-11.0			Mar 89	117-11.0				
BARLEY (cwt #2)					BARLEY (cwt #2)				
Dec 88	117-11.0			Dec 88	117-11.0				
Mar 89	117-11.0			Mar 89	117-11.0				
SOYBEAN					SOYBEAN				
Dec 88	150-0-85.0			Dec 88	150-0-85.0				
Mar 89	150-0-85.0			Mar 89	150-0-85.0				
CORN					CORN				
Dec 88	150-0-85.0			Dec 88	150-0-85.0				
Mar 89	150-0-85.0			Mar 89	150-0-85.0				

## LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Official prices/quotes previous day

Random West					Random West				
Copper					Copper				
Dec 88	1820.0-1840.0			Dec 88	1820.0-1840.0				
Mar 89	1820.0-1840.0			Mar 89	1820.0-1840.0				
Silver					Silver				
Dec 88	382.0-383.0			Dec 88	382.0-383.0				
Mar 89	382.0-383.0			Mar 89	382.0-383.0				
Gold					Gold				
Dec 88	1515.0-1520.0			Dec 88	1515.0-1520.0				
Mar 89	1515.0-1520.0			Mar 89	1515.0-1520.0				
Platinum					Platinum				
Dec 88	608.0-611.0			Dec 88	608.0-611.0				
Mar 89	608.0-611.0			Mar 89	608.0-611.0				
Aluminum					Aluminum				
Dec 88	1255.0-1260.0			Dec 88	1255.0-1260.0				
Mar 89	1255.0-1260.0			Mar 89	1255.0-1260.0				
Nickel					Nickel				
Dec 88	13900-13910			Dec 88	13900-13910				
Mar 89	13900-13910			Mar 89	13900-13910				

(1 Cent per Troy oz. @ 66 per ton)

## LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

As per latest prices at representative markets on London

Live Pig Contract					Live Pig Contract				
Dec 88	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	Dec 88	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
Mar 89	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	Mar 89	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
Dec 88	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	Dec 88	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
Mar 89	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	Mar 89	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
Live Cattle Contract					Live Cattle Contract				
Dec 88	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	Dec 88	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0
Mar 89	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	Mar 89	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0
Dec 88	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	Dec 88	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0
Mar 89	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	Mar 89	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0

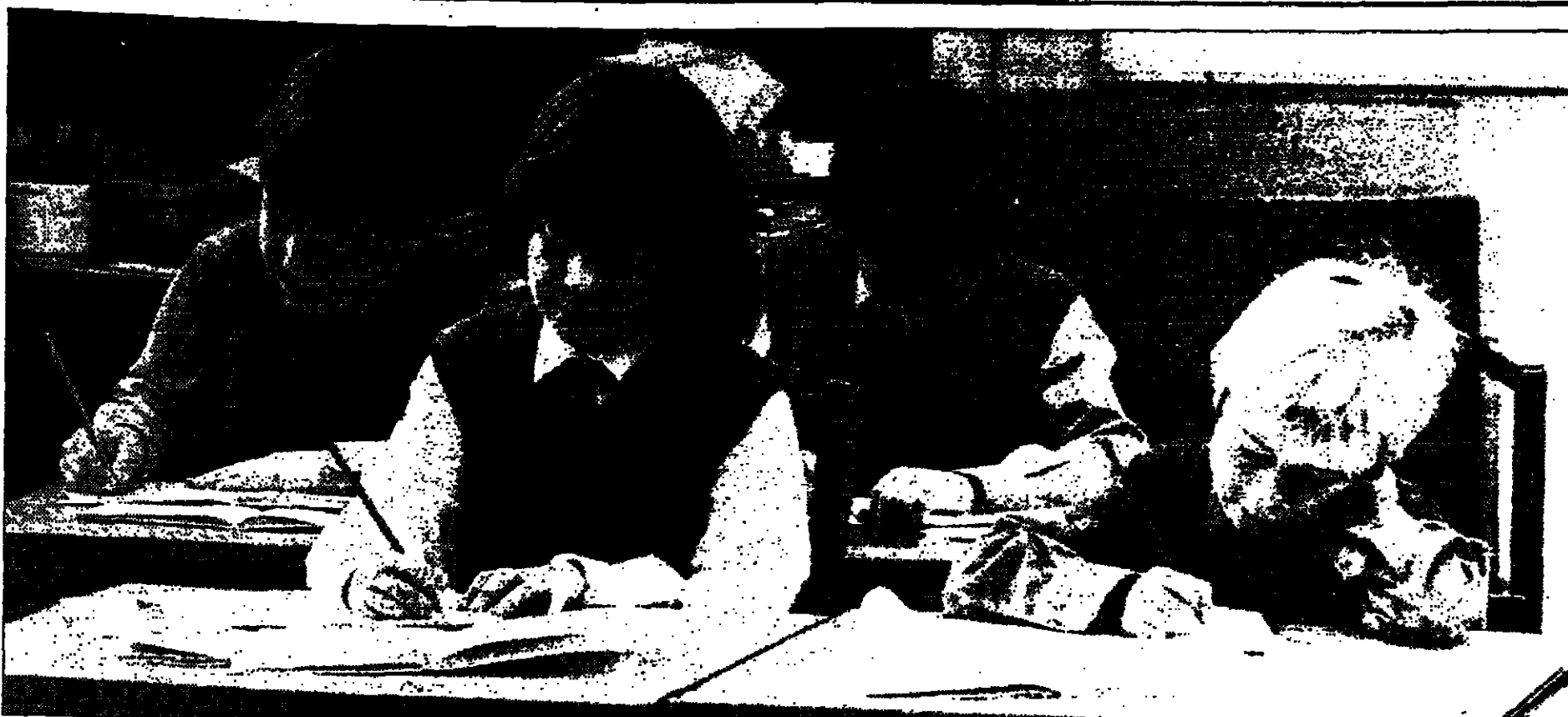


## PENMANSHIP

## FOCUS

## A SPECIAL REPORT

By Anthony Cox

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SION

Starting them young on the write lines: educationists have formed the Handwriting Interest Group to provide a focal point for the wide interest in the quality of children's handwriting

# Profits at the stroke of a pen

The pen is mightier today than it has ever been. No quill-pen manufacturer ever stood a chance of making the sort of profits Parker UK has achieved — £10.6 million last year, with forecasts of £20 million soon. Output, too, is enormous. Parker's UK record is 31 million units produced in a single year.

W H Smith, the retail stationery sector's brand leader, sells enough writing instruments in a year to encircle the globe.

The market is huge and growing all the time. Fountain pen sales in the UK topped £17.2 million last year, up 138 per cent on 1982. Some 30 per cent of the adult population now owns a fountain pen. And the total UK market for writing instruments is worth £190 million a year — at manufacturers' prices.

Pen companies are household names. Parker is said to be known by 97 per cent of adults. W H Smith claims 92 per cent of its customers are aware of PaperMate, 80 per cent know Sheaffer and 77 per cent Platinum.

It is a business in which there is

The art of elegant handwriting is undergoing a renaissance as the traditional fountain pen's spectacular revival continues

activity at every price level, from a few pence to thousands of pounds. Around the world, 14 million disposable BIC ballpoints — 13p each in Britain — are sold every day. When Parker launched its £165 Day-offord last year, it sold 15,000 in the first six months.

Kjerahn Crowley, sales director at A.T. Cross, says: "I am very excited by the enormous potential which exists for our brand in the UK market, which has not yet been fully exploited. We are confident of doubling our sales in the next three years."

Despite the grip of W H Smith, specialist pen retailers can still compete by offering first-class personal service to discerning buyers. The manufacturers' anti-

pate a further development of this retail sector with the opening of more shops like Pencraft, in London, and Pen Sense in Nottingham.

Public interest in good handwriting has never been higher. A brief mention in *The Times* last year brought the Society for Italic Hand-

writing some 300 membership enquiries. Nib grinders are making a good income altering standard medium gold nibs to suit italic writers, and most of the manufacturers have now jumped on the calligraphic bandwagon with special pen sets. Even at the bottom end of the calligraphy market, the story is one of growth. Sales of Berol's 69p disposable plastic-nibbed italic pen are 21 per cent up on last year.

According to John Wright, of Osmiroid, "The demand for part-time classes in beautiful writing exceeds the supply of competent teachers."

Companies like Osmiroid, which runs special workshops for teachers, Platinum and Berol are heavily in-

## THE WRITING INSTRUMENT MARKET

MARKET SHARES	Percentage of sales	WRITING MODES (all prices)	Percentage of sales
Under £1	58	Fountain pens	15 growing
£1-£2	8	Ballpens	45 static
£2-£4	6	Rollerballs etc	30 growing
£4-£8	8	Pencils	70 static
£8-£20	9		
Over £20	11	WRITING MODES (over £40)	
Total market value: £190m (retailers' prices, excluding wooden pencils and accessories)		Fountain pens	40
		Ballpens	40
		Rollerballs	15
		Pencils	5

## The question of education

For the Berol Advisory Service, the teaching of good handwriting is the same as teaching good manners

A schoolgirl once wrote to John Storrs to ask: "Is it true you've got trained woodworm to get the holes in pencils?" But Mr Storrs is used to such questions: he runs the Berol Advisory Service which offers information on all aspects of products that make a mark.

"People don't know the difference between a felt-tip pen, a fibre-tip and a felt-tip marker," he says. "What's the difference between a roller pen and a ballpen? How do I get ink stains out? How can I mark the sex of day-old chicks? What's the best pen to decorate an egg? You'd be amazed at questions we've had."

"We encourage people to ask us — and we're quite prepared to give information about products supplied by other companies."

"Our ink chemist, for example, has been with us about 20 years. He not only knows every ink on the market, he also knows how each is made. We can advise anyone — schools or the public — on the best product to make a mark."

Berol has been producing writing instruments for more than 130 years and has a reputation for innovation. About eight years ago it introduced its Handwriting Pen for primary schools. At that time children had the choice only of a fountain pen or a ballpen. The company tried to produce something as good as the fountain pen but with added advantages.

"We have always preached to primary schools the anti-ballpen message, even though we manufacture and sell ballpens. We believe that a child under 12 should never use a ballpen," says Mr Storrs.

"The advantage of the fountain pen is that it resists the paper so that the young child with his unformed fingers has to force the pen. The child has to do the work for each letter in

each word. It is the ideal writing instrument, but the child has to have blotting paper and, most important of all, if he drops the pen and damages the nib it can't be used any more.

"That's why we pioneered this disposable plastic-tipped pen which has a similar resistance to paper as a fountain pen. It doesn't need blotting paper and writes for about 3,000m — which is a long way for a young child. And, of course, it can be chucked on the floor or thrown at the teacher and will still write."

"We discussed the project with handwriting experts. By that I mean people who have a concern with the formation of letters and words rather than any particular style. We were looking for a pen that satisfied the children's needs, not the teachers' needs."

Twenty-seven of the country's local education authorities now order the 17p stick version of the red-barrelled Handwriting Pen. This incorporates Berol's airflow cap which was launched last year after cases of children swallowing pen caps and dying. "The airflow cap, which has air channels running through it, was developed in conjunction with an ear, nose and throat specialist and the Child Accident Prevention Trust," says Mr Storrs.

"Three years ago we launched the first disposable British-made italic pen with a porous plastic nib. Sales of the pen, which costs 69p, are showing an increase of 21 per cent on last year's figures. There is certainly a resurgence of interest in good handwriting. And at Berol, we look upon good handwriting as good manners."

● The Berol Advisory Service: John F Storrs, Berol Ltd, Oldmeadow Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 4JR

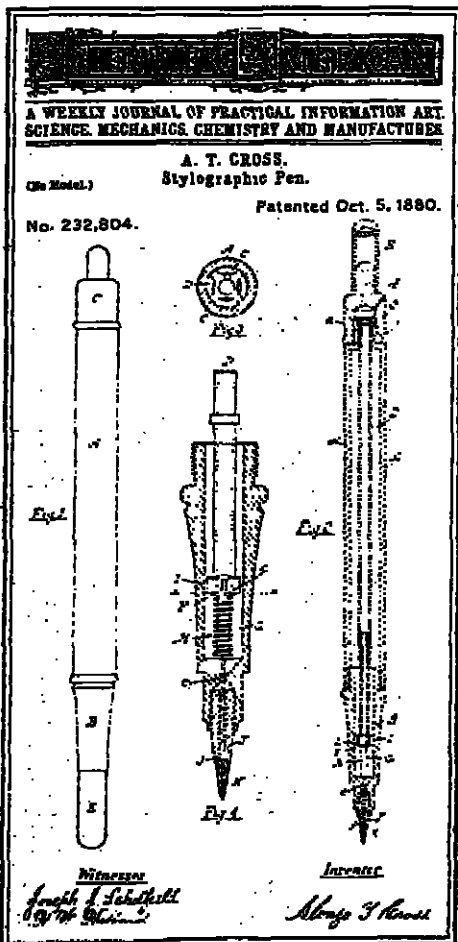


## THE EARLIEST 'BALL PEN' KNOWN TO SCIENCE?

A century and a bit ago, our advertisements were fond of quoting a remark of Nathaniel Hawthorne's: "If a man makes me a good pen, Hawthorne had said, 'I WILL MAKE

HIM IMMORTAL."

So it's clear what the English inventor ALONZO T. CROSS was after, when, back in 1879, he sent along samples of his brand new STYLOGRAPHIC PEN to the editors of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.



It had to be a shrewd move. Each page of that august journal contained THOUSANDS of WORDS — every single one written out for the printer ENTIRELY BY HAND.

Its writers ached to escape the drudgery and toil of constant pencil SHARPENING, pen DRIPPING and, if using a quill, nib TRIMMING.

Alonzo was no stranger to them. (They had already published twenty of his patents.) But this

NEW PEN was DIFFERENT. For one thing, it carried its own ink supply. And its RETRACTABLE TIP tapered to a stylus point that was not like any pencil or fountain pen they had ever seen before.

However, if the new pen looked odd, a few weeks of UNRELENTING JOURNALISTIC PRESSURE proved that it wrote perfectly.

10CT ROLLED GOLD "CENTURY" BALL PEN 1880

But what was it? A new kind of fountain pen, they decided. Then changed their minds and designated it an 'INK PENCIL.'

It was actually the forerunner of the modern ball pen. Today's CROSS BALL PENS are directly

descended from the Stylographic.

You will find they BALANCE PERFECTLY in the hand, and

WRITE as SMOOTHLY as did their illustrious ancestor.

As to their RELIABILITY let us take a lesson from history. History in the ELEGANT SHAPE of the Stylographic.

For, more than a century later, many of Alonzo's CROSS® pens are still writing. SINCE 1846.

Prices of Cross writing instruments range from under £15 to over £1,500. All are mechanically guaranteed for a lifetime.

For full range details and a list of stockists, write to: J. T. Cross (UK) Limited, Concorde House, Concorde Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 0JQ. Telephone: (0552) 422793.



# FOCUS

## Who buys what?

What kind of pens are bought and where

There is no guarantee that selling pens will make you rich, despite the buoyancy of the writing-implementation market, says Tom Hayhoe, merchandise controller for stationery at W. H. Smith. "There's probably room in London and, possibly, Birmingham for the specialist, but when we looked at pen boutiques they didn't stand up," he said.

W. H. Smith claims the position of market leader in pen retailing. Rachel Alexander, the company's pen buyer, says: "In 35 shops we stock a range of Mont Blanc, Cross and the more expensive Watermans, but Parker and Sheaffer are in all our stores. Our fountain pen sales are very buoyant, but I'm looking to provide shops with a good display of good quality pens of all types at all price levels."

The company has a three-fold marketing strategy: to establish customer confidence in W. H. Smith as the authority on pens, to increase public awareness of the range available and to develop the idea of pens as gifts. The strategy is underpinned by extensive research, some of the key findings of which are that fountain pens are seen as "special" while ballpens are seen as "everyday".

Most pen purchases are planned not made on impulse and a tenth of pens bought from W. H. Smith shops are intended as gifts. Awareness of quality brands is highest among the 20 to 34 year-old high-earners.

## The fountain flows again

The shop counter is the best place to observe the renaissance of the fountain pen. "Fountain pens have become more and more popular over the last 10 years," says Stan Holness, manager of the Pencraft shop at 119 Regent Street, in London's West End. "Before that you had difficulty selling them because everybody had gone Biro mad. Business is now building up fantastically."

Yvonne Perry, manageress of Pencraft's 281 Regent Street branch, agrees enthusiastically. "You get six people walk in the shop, and five of them will want a fountain pen. We are busy all day long selling pens. Every now and again we get what we call a 'double-day' - 'refills and rubbish' - and think 'When is someone going to come in and buy a decent pen?', but they are few and far between."

The Pencraft firm, founded in 1950, runs four specialist shops in London, two in Regent Street, one in Holborn and one in the City.

Mrs Perry explains: "The basic stock in the four shops is the same - Waterman, Sheaffer, Parker, Mont Blanc - all the big names in pens, but you get the difference in the nib gradings. For example, City customers want fine nibs, while tourists want medium. Our bestseller at the moment is Mont Blanc. I would say Waterman comes second."

Mr Holness, who has been with Pencraft for 15 years, adds a qualification: "Parker is, perhaps, the best-known pen name in the world; it's all that some overseas visitors, particularly from India and Africa, want. Nevertheless,

In our highly technological age, a curious trend is the rising popularity of the old-fashioned instrument

Mont Blanc is the choice of Japanese and American visitors."

According to Mrs Perry, who has been with the company for 12 years, "The propelling-pencil side of the market seems to be going up at the moment." However, to Mr Holness "it's peanuts compared with the fountain pens".

Both agree that fountain pens make up about 70 per cent of their sales. Then it's ballpoints, roller-balls and propelling pencils - in that order.

Mr Holness says: "More and more people are going back to writing with ink. Black is the favourite colour, except for the Japanese, who will not use anything but 'bru-brack'."

Mrs Perry adds: "The interest in italic handwriting is much more noticeable now. Five years ago it would have been unusual for customers to come in asking for italic nibs."

Mr Holness is quite clear about the reasons for the fountain pen's new success. "People are taking more trouble with their handwriting," he says. "A lot of people say, 'For years I've used ballpens. My handwriting is appalling

and I want to change it.' Even people in their twenties are saying this."

Mrs Perry adds: "You have only to be in the shop to see it. You can spend an hour or an hour and a half - and sometimes longer - with a customer trying to sort out a suitable pen for them. Sometimes the final choice is the first pen you suggested when you saw them write."

"If you watch someone write, you can usually say roughly what type of pen is going to suit them. Weight-wise, you can't because you won't know what they feel comfortable with."

"We get people who come in here and say 'That is the pen I want'. But it is more common for people to be undecided - they just say they want a fountain pen. You think, 'Oh dear, where do we start?'"

"Price is your only starting point. It is surprising, though, the number of people who think that a good pen starts at around £10. If you want a good-quality pen, you have to start looking around £40 or £50."

Mr Holness says: "People come to us because we are a specialist shop. If they want a pen, full stop, they'll go to W. H. Smith."

What makes a customer choose a particular pen? "I should think it is writing quality, weight and then colour," says Mr Holness. Mrs Perry agrees: "Colour is the least of a customer's worries."



Stan Holness: "More people are going back to writing in ink"

Most of Mrs Perry's customers are buying for themselves, but Mr Holness says: "Half of my customers are buying for themselves and half are buying gifts. What tourists want is something English, but what is an English pen?"

Parker is British-owned but a lot of their stuff is made in France. Waterman, which used to be the traditional English pen, is now French. A T Cross is American but their

pens are made in Ireland. Sheaffer is an American company.

"The business is very unisex, with the exception of items like the very largest Mont Blanc, which would be too big for most ladies."

What of the future for the quality pen market? "Very promising," Mr Holness says. "I am always amazed at how the manufacturers find something new."

## Strange history of the little pen everybody uses

How a left-wing Hungarian fulfilled a writing revolution 50 years ago

The pen world's bestseller is the BIC Crystal. Every day, some 14 million of the disposable tungsten-carbide ballpoint pens are now sold around the world.

Despite its low price - 13p in Britain - the manufacturers claim that their pen, which has a write-out length of up to 3.5 kilometres, is a better product than the original and once-expensive Biro from which it is descended.

The world's first ballpoint appeared a century ago, when an American inventor, John Loud, designed a pen that used a train of three balls to carry ink from an impregnated wad. At around the same time, other inventors were experimenting with "wheel pens", inspired by the machines used to mark out tennis courts.

The first commercially successful ballpoint did not, however, appear until 1938, when László Biro, a left-wing Hungarian journalist and former army officer, produced a pen that relied on a specially formulated ink being delivered to the ball by capillary action. Hungary's alliance with Nazi Germany forced Biro to flee to Argentina - taking his pen with him. He patented it in Buenos Aires and set up a factory.

After the outbreak of the second world war, a company was established in England to manufacture Biro pens for use by allied airforces.

When peace came, the Biro

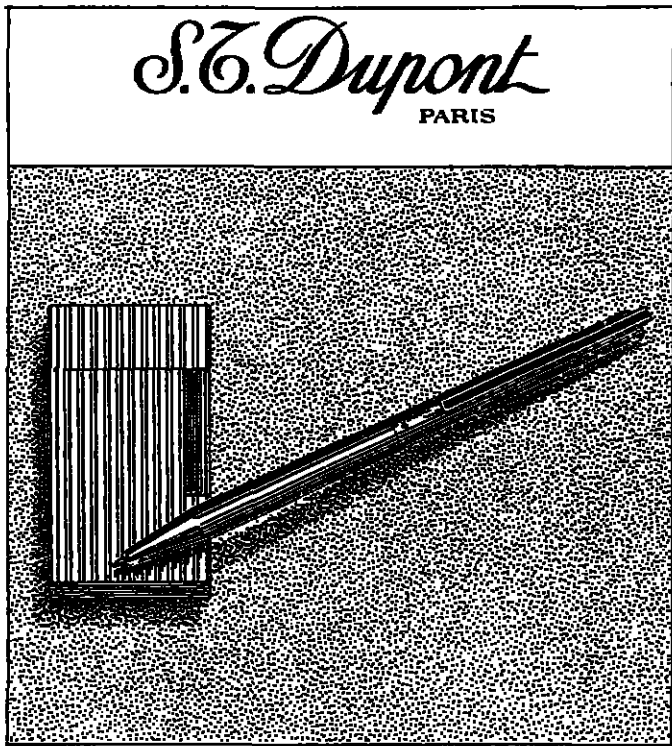


Biro: no US royalties

went on sale to the general public. In Britain it cost the equivalent of £2.75 - more than half a week's pay for most working people. Unfortunately for the inventor, his patent did not extend to North America and when the pen went on sale in New York in 1945 Biro did not benefit from its runaway success. On the first day's trading, one department store sold 10,000.

Within four years, the ballpoint had ousted the fountain pen as the most common writing implement. By 1955 mass production and technical improvements had brought a dramatic drop in its price.

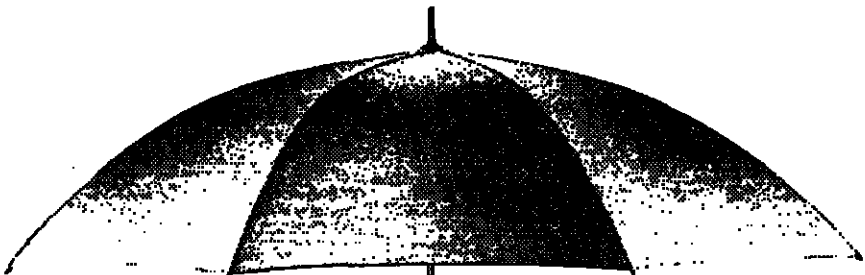
In 1957, Marcel Bich, a maker of pen components in Paris, took over the Biro Swan firm in the UK. A year later he moved into the US market. Since 1958, BIC has sold 80,000 million Crystal pens, 3,500 million in the UK.



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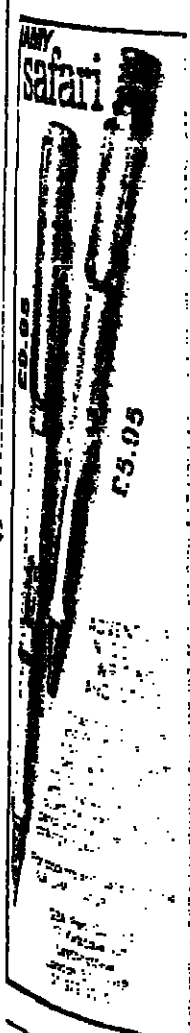
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Penmanship





# A vintage in hand

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keep the ink  
pen fountain  
flowing

**T**he *What's My Line?* panel failed to guess that Roy Zeff is a fountain pen repairer. One reason could be that there is much more to his job than simply straightening bent nibs, as visits to the Penfriend workshop in Newbury Street, near the Barbican, or Classic Pens' Epping premises show.

He explained: "Mostly people bring in good-quality lever-fill pens — early Swans and Stephens, for example. The main problem is that the rubber ink sac has perished. That's what we replace the most, I suppose."

"People keep pens filled with ink lying in a drawer for years, then when they try to use them, the sac just falls to pieces."

"With modern pens, the most common repair is to the piercer that pierces the cartridge inside the nib unit. The other problem is leakage."

Mr Zeff runs the busy little City workshop in partnership with Peter Woolf, who looks after Penfriend's retail shop in the Strand. They have been in business together since 1985, after taking over the repair workshop from its founder, Ivor Mason, in 1950.

Andrew Lambrou, of Classic Pens, who has been collecting pens for 34 years, was a customer of Mr Mason before deciding to set up his own repair and sales service for modern and vintage pens.

He said: "Public consciousness of the attractiveness, quality, variety and dignity of vintage pens has been growing phenomenally in recent years."

"We get asked to do almost the impossible. I suppose our success rate is about 98 per cent. We have the capacity to repair between 300 and 400 pens a week and we get very near to that. We can certainly keep four or five people fully employed all week."

"The biggest problem is with pens of obscure manufacture for which we don't have any spare parts. There were so many manufacturers. We can sometimes improvise and use parts from other pens."

"We can hand-turn a barrel or cap, but it is a very exacting and expensive job. We are, however, prepared to give any repair a try."



Roy Zeff repairing a gold nib in his Penfriend workshop

"Our basic price for cleaning and servicing a typical lever-fill pen of the 1950s, where we have to replace the sac, is £8.50 plus VAT. That will bring the pen back to pristine condition. With vacuum filling pens, like a vintage Parker Duofold, where the barrel itself — not a rubber sac — is filled by using a locking plunger, a full service costs £25 plus VAT."

At Classic Pens, the basic overhaul charge for a traditional lever-fill pen with a new sac is £10.

**T**he retail price of refurbished pens makes repair worthwhile, Mr Lambrou, an acknowledged expert, says.

"One of the most popular vintage pens, the 1920s Parker Lucky Curve Senior Duofold in red, known as 'The Big Red', is worth £260 to £280."

"Mandarin yellow is a very rare colour in the Duofold range, and early cocoa or mustard Parker 51s are very rare. A mustard 51 would probably fetch about £150. The 51 is one of the most popular pens ever made. We have a very high demand for them. Recent 51s in excellent condition cost about £65 with a steel cap, and £80-£85 with a gold cap."

"A few years ago one could easily buy, Conway-Stewart, Swan and, of course, Onoto. These are the top three, typically English makes," says Mr Lambrou, fountain pen research co-ordinator for the enthusiasts' organization, the Writing Equipment Society.

"Some of the most beautiful Swans were made in the 1930s in a lizard finish. They would go for about £80 to £100, depending on the size. A Swan of the 1940s could go for £40 to £80."

Unfortunately, Penfriend, despite its vast stock of spare parts, cannot replace all nibs. However, although many people think they need a nib replacing if the points are bent, Mr Zeff is confident he can usually reshape them — even after they've been dropped.

Like everyone else in the pen business, Mr Zeff is benefitting from the renewed interest in good handwriting. "There's a big demand for our nib grinding service (£12.50 plus VAT)," he said. "We specialize in helping people who are left-handed or who write at peculiar angles. We grind nibs specifically to suit them."

Penfriend's nightmare is the

business. Those very old parts we will never see again. We have to cannibalize every old pen we can get our hands on," said Mr Zeff.

Mr Lambrou, who is writing a book — *Fountain Pens for Collectors* — to be published by Philip Wilson in association with Sotheby's next September, advises: "Invest in Conway-Stewart, they are still

diminishing stock of spares. "We are always on the lookout for stationers going out of good value for money — as are the solid colour Parkers and Sheaffers."

© Andrew Lambrou, *Classic Pens*, PO Box 826, Epping, Essex, CM16 6DT; Roy Zeff, Penfriend, 7 Newbury Street, London, EC1A 7HX

Taking a hand to ensure that you keep in line with the aristocrats

People often say to Peter Brazier, Parker Pen's sales and marketing director, "Aren't your pens expensive?" And while he agrees with them, he says, "It's a pity you can't take everyone around the factory so that they can see what goes into the making of a pen."

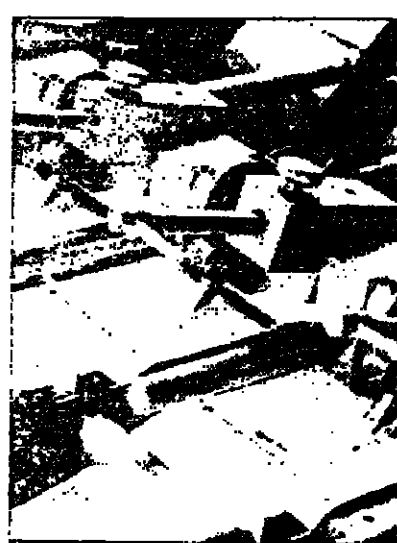
Parker's factory at Newhaven, in Sussex, is a bright and spacious plant where work goes on round the clock as some 500 staff produce about 28 million pens and pencils a year. The emphasis is on quality control. Fourteen workers are employed, for example, on the task of write-testing each nib before it goes on sale. Supervisors reject whole production batches if one item is off the mark.

The company's commitment to high standards is well-known. "The Queen sends her pen in for a general service, just as you would a car," says the production manager, John Owen.

"One of the largest single orders for component parts was from India — for pen caps with arrow clips," recalls Mr Brazier. "We couldn't understand it, but it turned out that people were buying one Parker pen and three or four caps to wear in an outside brass pocket as status symbols. They could always produce the one pen, but everyone thought they were owners of four or five."

He says, "Our emphasis is on quality and on moving up-market." It is a strategy that is paying off. "We expect to put on 18 per cent more business this year. Last year we put on 16 per cent — and that for the brand leader in a developed market is excellent. The market itself is probably only growing at between 5 and 6 per cent each year."

"We're expected to make a £20 million profit next year from a £10 million loss in the three-year period since the man-



Putting Parker pens to the test

## Written in style

agement buy-out from the American parent company."

How has Parker done it? "We spend more money on trying to pull the product through the retailer than we do on selling it to them in the first place," says Mr Brazier. "We spend more money on demonstrators, consultants, merchandisers, promotions, engraving machines and on doing all the things at the

point of sale to encourage people to buy than we do on selling to the retailer."

Mr Brazier is bullish about the market. "Sheaffer is our closest competitor, with a jockeying for positions three, four and five between PaperMate, Waterman, perhaps Mont Blanc, and Elysee."

"Five years ago there was a clear number two and a clear number three, four, five and six quality manufacturers, but what we've seen is a greater lead for us and a bunching of the rest. I would predict that in five or six years time some of these people might not be in existence because retailers are more discerning now on the number of products they stock. We all compete at the same price points — and as brand leader we are increasing our market share."

"Our research shows that brand awareness has not altered in 15 years — 97 per cent of the population are consistently aware of the Parker brand. On the other hand, we are not seen as particularly technically advanced."

"Parker have not necessarily been the first into any particular market. We're not necessarily seen as the innovators — but it's a deliberate policy not to be seen that way. When fountain pens came out in the 1880s, Parker weren't the first. The founder of the company, George Parker, believed in waiting until the market settled down before stepping in."

Parker products range in price from about £3 to £2,500 and the company's target audience is anyone from 10 to 100.

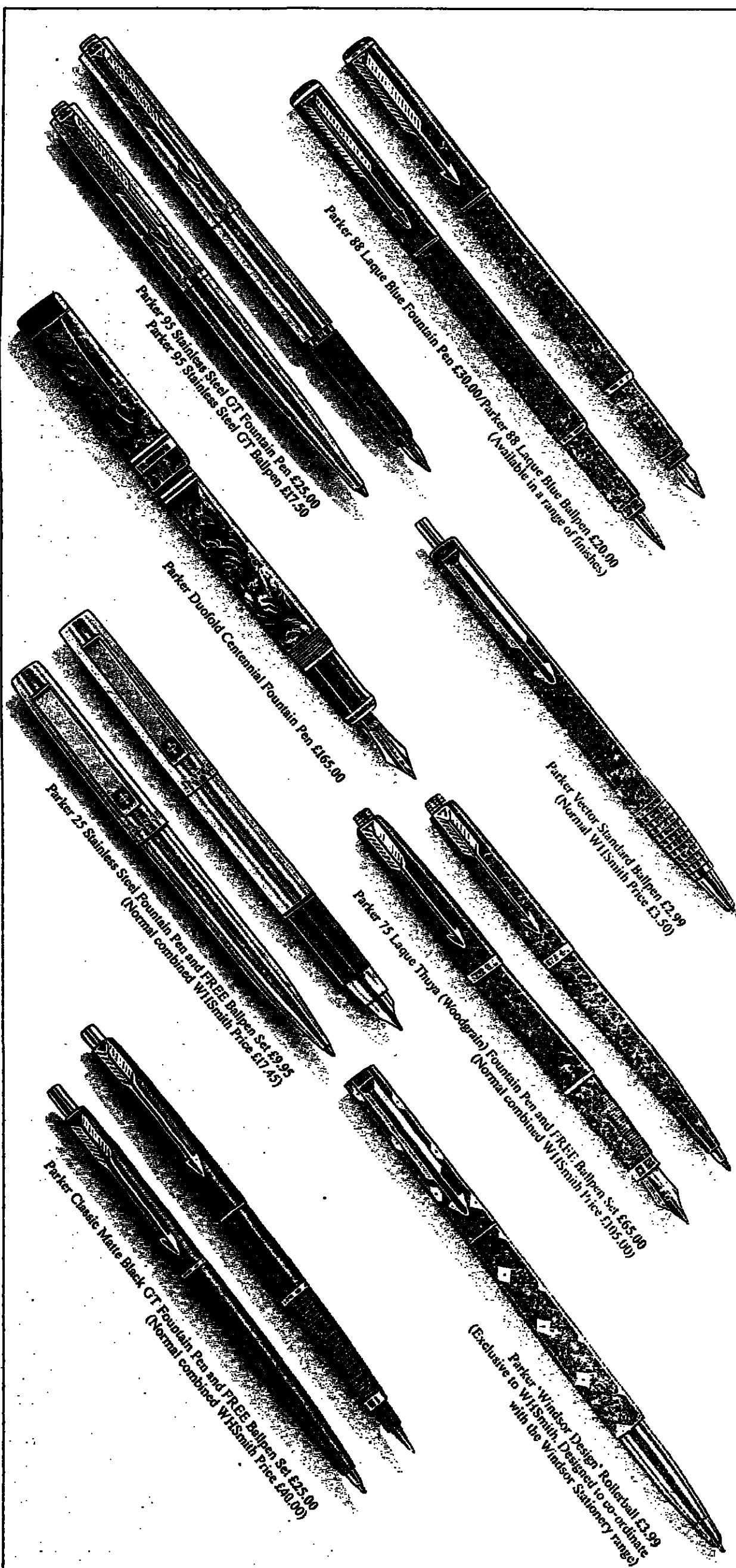
The best-selling fountain pen is the lowest-priced model, the Vector. Nevertheless, the twenties-style £165 hand-finished Duofold sold 15,000 in the six months following its launch last year. "That," says Mr Brazier, "shows there is a market for quality British products."

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## MOTORING

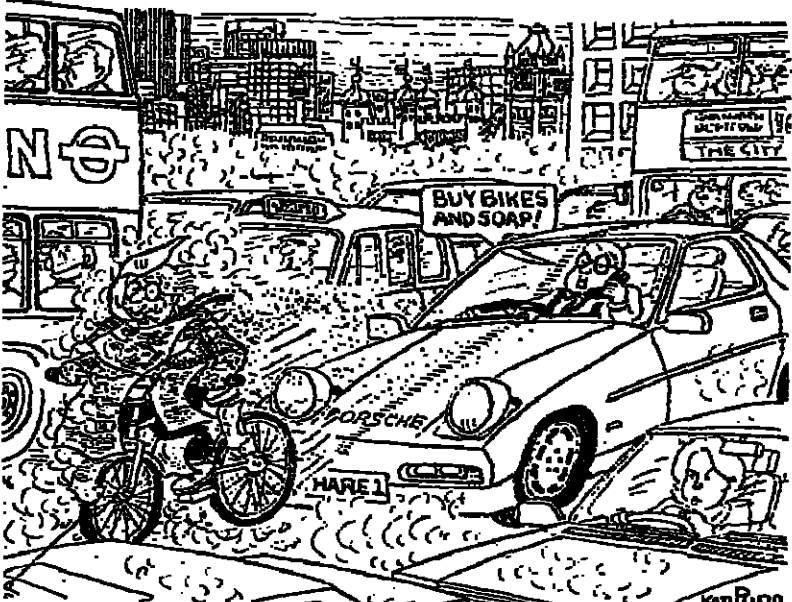
## Pedal power v Porsche

What's the quickest way to get to work through town traffic each day — car or bike? And who gets more hot and bothered?

The race between the two Carreras started on the long incline that feeds south London commuter traffic into Blackheath's congested High Street. The driver in the 150 mph Porsche Carrera inched forward in the familiar snake of cars, a cellular phone ready to hand in case he felt in danger of missing a business appointment, writes Daniel Ward.

My Carrera crept past him... despite relying on pedal power. My vehicle was the latest in all-terrain bicycles, a super smart Carrera machine which scores on street credibility with its high-tech looks. Kugobly tyres, rugged chrome alloy frame, quick-release everything and 18 gears make the grey and yellow machine the Range Rover of the bike world.

The Porsche stayed behind for a



couple of miles, even as I struggled against the blustery conditions across Blackheath. I had learned that rapid flicking between gears was the best way to keep up the momentum as the legs began to weaken.

Thirty-five minutes of cycling to evaluate the merits of travelling to work on two wheels rather than four was hot and hard — and I had yet to reach the halfway point in the 11-mile

journey that can take an hour of bumper-to-bumper crawl in a car.

The steep hill down to Deptford brought some relief, but the Porsche went past. However, my advantage was still to come — a mile-long dawdle close to the Thames where the buses-only lane brings daily congestion. As the traffic piled up, the bike came into its own and I stopped thinking about my flagging pedal power. It was

another three miles before the Porsche swept by for the last time.

Bus lanes are great for cyclists, apart from the noxious clouds of black smoke buses emit as they start off. And I discovered that not only is cycling tiring but that in London it can be a filthy business. In Rotherhithe tunnel the exhaust fumes were less noticeable than the dust and litter swirling around.

I also found that having a bike with 18 gears was as unnecessary as a Porsche driver in a jam having 150mph poke under his right foot.

Psychologically, it seems that we like to know our machines are capable of much more than is required of them.

The all-terrain bike, which originated in California, is at least highly practical, proving vastly easier on its rider in town than a racing bike. Big tyres soak up the worst of the bumps and the rugged frame does not flinch at the pot-holes. The brakes seem more powerful than on a racer and the straight handlebars are sensible.

I arrived at work, hot and grimy, a respectable 65 minutes after leaving home. So with practice a cycle could match the pace of a car. Unfortunately, I still have to summon up the energy to slog back home.

Carrera prices: a Porsche costs around £40,000. Halford's two-wheeler £299.

## ROADTEST

## Porsche 911 Carrera 4



Backend bonus: the 911's rear "coffee tray" lies flat, then raises automatically at over 50 mph

## Little change for £850m

It has to be a very special sort of car that, when already 25 years old, is given a new lease of life at a cost of £850 million with the express intention of making the new car look barely different from its predecessor. The Porsche 911 is such a car. For legions of enthusiasts the 911 is the definitive sports car, writes Daniel Ward.

The new 911 Carrera 4 is the poor man's version of the 200-off Porsche 959, which costs more than £150,000. The engineers took the doors, bonnet, roof and seats from the old car, and changed nearly everything else. The aim was to design a car which retained the styling and essential character of today's 911 yet eliminated the challenging handling which had both created the image of the 911 as the ultimate driver's car but one that many drivers could not drive with any peace of mind.

Old bad habits such as locking the front wheels in slippery conditions have been banished with the belated development of anti-lock brakes. But the most significant change is the four-wheel-drive transmission.

Engine power is divided 31/69 per cent between the front and rear axles, though the balance is altered automatically by an electronic

brain according to conditions. Sensors measure the difference in speed between each wheel and the cornering forces. If the speeds vary by more than 0.5mph, indicating imminent wheel spin, the centre differential is locked instantly, changing the power balance to 50/50.

The suspension has been completely re-designed and

## No hint of twitchiness from the throttle

endows the 911 with vastly more predictable handling. Once, releasing the throttle mid-corner would have sent the tail sliding viciously but now it steadfastly refuses to provide a hint of twitchiness.

Superior traction makes it easier to accelerate hard on poor surfaces but the Carrera 4's cornering grip on a good road is subjectively diminished. Drive into a bend fast and the driver is required to apply more steering lock as the car understeers.

A fine handling balance has been sacrificed in a bid to make the 911 a car that owners of indifferent skill can drive safely at speed. Laudable

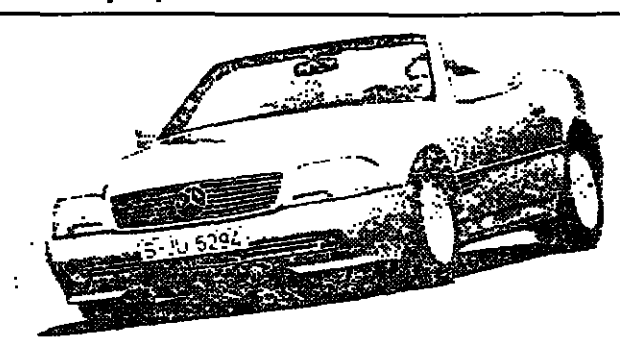
but not satisfying, though the story would be dramatically reversed in wet or icy conditions.

A new 250 bhp six-cylinder engine, with twin spark plugs rather than the more fashionable four valves per cylinder, has a slightly muted performance despite powering to a top speed of 161 mph. Accelerating to 60 mph takes less than six seconds, yet the razor-sharp response at low speed is missing, and the 3.6 litre engine likes to be revved beyond 4000 revs before delivering its strongest thrust. An extra weight of 100kg inevitably takes the edge off even Porsche performance.

Plastic bumpers and a rear aerodynamic spoiler which rises automatically above 50 mph have helped to make the latest 911 much sleeker than its predecessor, however the classic lines remain.

This supremely handsome car is still exactly the right size for a sports car when driving fast. However, while no Porsche is bad, the latest £48,000 911 is not perhaps the sports car of huge stature we might have expected.

When the Carrera 4 is stripped of its 4wd for a cheaper rear-wheel drive 911, the result is likely to be the best 911 ever.



Mercedes has released the first pictures of its new SL sports car, right, but its most interesting feature is hidden. The engineers wanted a roll-over to protect passengers yet balked at unsightly steel tubing which would ruin the car's elegant lines. So they developed a sophisticated system whereby the moment one wheel lifts off the ground, sensors trigger a hidden roll-over bar which instantly rises from behind the driver.

## Should cyclists be tested and insured?

The man on the bike was wearing a crash helmet to which was attached a rearview mirror on a long, slender stalk. Its efficacy was questionable but at least he was making an effort to raise his awareness levels, writes Stuart Birch.

The problems of cyclists mixing with motorized traffic should concern us all.

They do not have to be insured, pay no road tax, do not have to take a qualifying test, and are not even obliged to read the Highway Code.

So it is only parental control that may prevent a five-year-old taking his or her shiny new bike on to a main road. (Much the same may be said for horses and ponies, though generally they are only walked or trotted slowly on roads to avoid possible leg injury and they are usually covered by insurance.)

There are about 15 million bicycles on British roads. If

one of them scrapes down the side of my car in a traffic jam and the rider pedals away quickly there's nothing I can do about it.

Worse, what if a careless cyclist causes me to swerve and collide with an oncoming vehicle? The culprit will almost certainly not be properly insured (though household insurance may provide some cover. And with no registration number on the bike,

## Safety wheels

Cycling is 16 times more dangerous than travelling by car in Britain, but in Holland accidents have been reduced by 6 per cent as a result of making full circle reflective bicycle wheels mandatory. The two bright circles are created by reflective tyres which add only £4 to the price of a bike. Even in poor conditions the reflective circles have become synonymous with the bicycle.

tracing the rider, if he or she races off, would be difficult.

The Department of Transport says that cyclists take out third party insurance "entirely at their own discretion", though if a cyclist causes an accident through negligence he is liable to be sued for damages by the victim.

I can already imagine the clamour of protest at the very suggestion that cyclists should have third-party insurance,

pay for using their bit of the road and have a number plate. But though none of that might have been particularly necessary even a few years ago, in 1988 it is not unreasonable.

Of course, the risks of cyclists being involved in accidents can be cut. Cycle training is organized by RoSPA and about 300,000 children a year, most aged 10 to 11, take part successfully. But older cyclists are just as

much at risk as the youngsters. In 1987, 212 adult cyclists and 68 children were killed on our roads. The total number of adult and child cyclists killed and injured reached 21,063 — and those were just the reported accidents.

So perhaps now is the time for the DOT to give the situation some more thought. Cycling has long been a cheap, easy and enjoyable way of travelling, and I remember with delight the days when, aged 14, I rode my five-speed, silver-painted, drop-handlebar Ellsworth Hopper Tour Anglaise de Luxe. But I also remember colliding with a pedestrian who suddenly stepped from the pavement, and running into a car on a rainy afternoon when my brakes failed.

Both incidents were lessons learned, but I was not insured and I had received no cycle or road safety training.



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# Barnbrook Again in different league to Newbury opposition

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With the conditions in his favour, Barnbrook Again has a sound chance of winning the Arlington Premier Series Chase Qualifier at Newbury today.

Both over hurdles and over fences his form is so far and away superior to that of his rivals, that it looks merely a question of whether or not he will get the trip.

For while both Golden Freeze and Loddon Lad have both won over the distance - the former in Ireland before he joined Jenny Pittman's stable, the latter on this course last March - Barnbrook Again has done all his winning at or around two miles.

However, trainer David Elsworth remains adamant that Barnbrook Again will not fall through lack of stamina even though he was beaten on the only occasion that he tackled today's distance of 2½ miles last season.

Today, the race conditions, fast ground and small field are all on his side. Also he showed himself to be well when he beat Panto Prince, a winner

since, at Devon and Exeter first time out.

Today's race, though, is reserved for Landing Board in the Jacky Upton Handicap Chase, also over 2½ miles. It was over the same course and distance that Peter Harris's 10-year-old scored at the beginning of this month.

In the meantime he has also won at Kempton where he was again ridden by David Skyrme, who clearly gets on so well with him. Indeed, Skyrme's 7th allowance could easily be the deciding factor in so tight a handicap.

For while Clara Mountain, Duke Of Milan and Arctic Stream will all strip fitter for the first race of the season, Landing Board will carry only 9st 11lb after his young rider has drawn his allowance.

Prospects at Leicester have

With that featherweight, I believe Landing Board will be hard to contain in the closing stages of a race which could easily see the other three, along with another front runner, Gee-A, contrive to cut one another's throats.

As far as the Oxfordshire Novices' Chase is concerned, this may be best left to On Reflection, who won a couple of point-to-points and was placed in similar company to today's in Ireland last season before joining Kim Bailey's stable.

Look Lively, who won his first and only race so far over hurdles on the Berkshire track three weeks ago, can collect again in the first division of the Freshman's Novices' Hurdle, this time for different

improved and Nick Lees, the clerk of the course, yesterday "very hopeful" that the meeting will go ahead.

No problems have been reported at the day's principal meeting, Newbury.

## Sedgefield abandoned

Today's meeting at Sedgefield was abandoned yesterday morning following an inspection.

There are five inches of snow on the course and no sign of an improvement.

Prospects at Leicester have

# Bell guilty of 'beating' charge

Harry Bell, the former trainer, has been found guilty of causing a horse unnecessarily suffering for the second time.

The case against Bell, aged 60, of Middlesbrough, was heard at Middlesbrough Magistrates' Court yesterday. Sentence will be passed in three weeks' time.

Sheriff James Patterson heard evidence from two former stable girls, who saw the horse being ill-treated, and a rope and a beaten with a stick.

Mr Edward Targowski, defending, told the court that Bell was the former trainer of Middlesbrough for 40 years and that any order made in regard to his future keeping of animals could be detrimental to his business.

Bell was also found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering through maltreatment and failing to provide proper veterinary attention, to a horse in November, 1984, and fined £500.

Two months later the Jockey Club suspended Bell for seven months and he has yet to reappear.

Bell has won the Scottish National three times.

Workforce proposal

A Conservative proposal to privatize Worcester racecourse has been rejected by the controlling Labour group on Worcester City Council.

# Newall proposes radical changes in levy structure

By Graham Rock

Lord Newall, chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board, launched an initiative yesterday to change the structure of the finance of the horse and greyhound racing industry.

He proposed that the Horse Racing Levy Board be renamed the Betting Levy Board and administer funding for both horse and greyhound racing.

A new across-the-board levy of one per cent of betting turnover would be distributed between horse and greyhound racing in direct proportion to the relative turnover of the two sports.

Lord Newall envisaged that racecourses would run their own races, but that off-course betting would come under the new body, and expand rapidly into the formidable high street rival to the established bookmakers.

He also proposed that the board buy out the bookmaker-financed Satellite Information Services (SIS), the company which transmits live TV racing information, and one which adds to the government how the public interest can be affected when the board has influence or control over the means of disseminating betting information," he said.

Lord Newall reaffirmed the

greyhound racing industry's view that the sport is being exploited by bookmakers. Because they own some of the tracks which afternoon betting shop punters wager on, they depress the copyright fees and continue to collect 10 per cent of all bets from punters, returning only eight per cent in betting tax and retaining two per cent for themselves.

Alan Fearn, the senior steward of the National Greyhound Racing Club, said that he was more money being bet on greyhounds, about 27 per cent of the total betting shop turnover, there was an obvious need for more funds to protect the integrity of the sport.

Lord Newall also criticized the bookmakers over their computer forecast return, describing the profit as "outrageous".

He has sent copies of the report to the Home Secretary and the director of the Office of Fair Trading, John Watts, MP for Slough, has tabled three questions in Parliament, two on the role of the major bookmakers and one which asks if the Home Secretary will broaden the current discussions on the 28th Levy Scheme and the feasibility of privatising the betting industry.

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# Scudamore banned for whip misuse

Peter Scudamore and Lorcan Wyer were suspended for two days at Haydock Park yesterday for improper use of the whip on Celtic Shot and Little Polver respectively, first and second in the St Helens Handicap Chase.

Both bans are effective on December 3-4 and in Scudamore's case means he will miss the ride on the champion hurdler Celtic Shot, an intended runner in the Mecca Bookmakers' Handicap Hurdle at Sandown Park on December 3.

The stewards found that Scudamore had put seven weak marks on the neck and side of the offside of Run And Skip, a gelding who was second in the St Helens Handicap Chase.

Wyer was found guilty of giving Little Polver a large heel on the offside and a further three weak blows that, Wyer, however, was quick to defend himself and made no secret of his anger at the verdict. "My horse must be light skinned," he said. "I did not hit him with any amount of severity. He had one weak mark, but what is the use of going to Portman Square?"

Run And Skip is now a likely runner in the Coral Welsh National, a race he won in 1985, at Chepstow on December 27.

Scudamore, now an 81 winner, had earlier initiated a double on the Martin Pipe-trained Enigma Army in the Hurdle, but was beaten by the 10-year-old gelding, who was immediately quoted at 25-1 by Hills for the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham next March.

The former Irish point-to-pointer Bookmaker, trained by Josh Gifford, recorded his second success of the season with a 10-1 win from Zaka in the Maresfield Novices' Chase.

Roddy Armytage, who moved to Middleham from Lambourn in April, landed his first winner from his new stables when Too Late landed the £50,000 Hurdle at Wincanton.

Armytage's estranged wife, Sue, later registered her first success with Bold King's Hussar, ridden by daughter-in-law, at Wincanton Handicap Hurdle at Wincanton.

Simon Sherwood misses the ride on Barnbrook Again at Newbury this afternoon after being kicked in the face yesterday. He recovered from the injury, but is expected to be out of action for at least a week.

Dermot Browne suffered a suspected broken leg in his concussion at Ludlow. His mount, Gaelic Silver, fell at the last in the Elton Novices' Hurdle.

Tim Pinfield, a faller from Benbec in the same race, has a suspected broken collar-bone, while Philip Fenton was stood down for 24 hours with concussion after Cerami fell in the amateur riders' chase.

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## NEWBURY

Selections By Mandarin

1.00 Look Lively. 2.30 LANDING BOARD (nap). 3.00 Kings Rank. 3.30 Slave King.

1.30 PHAROAH'S LAEN (nap). 2.00 Barnbrook Again. 2.30 Arctic Stream.

Going: good

1.0 FRESHMAN'S NOVICES HURDLE (Div 1: 3-Y-O: £1,650: 2m 100yd) (14 runners)

101 1 LOOK LIVELY 25 (C.D.) (Mrs M Connell) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
102 2 CANTON 12 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
103 3 CLASSICAL QUARTET 41 (A) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
104 4 COWORTH PARK 28 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
105 5 FALLSIDE 12 (C) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
106 6 FREEMANTLE 45 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
107 7 LYPHUR 10 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
108 8 MARCHMAN 13 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
109 9 OCCASION 27 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
110 10 TAKE NO NOTICE 9 (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
111 11 TONKARAB 12 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
112 12 VIKING VENTURE 13 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
113 13 WINDSOR 12 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59  
114 14 STRIDE HOME 18 (M) (Mrs J O'Neil) Casey 11-7 J Dwyer 59

BETTING: 4-6 Look Lively, 7-2 Take No Notice, 5-1 Viking Venture, 5-1 Stride Home, 12-1 Marchman, 14-1 Freemantle, 10-1 others.

1987: ESKIMO BITE 11-0 S Sherwood (8-4 fav) J Jenkins 13 ran

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FREEFANTLE won over course-and-distance earlier in the month, but was ridden out to beat him by LYPHUR (2m 100yd) at Newbury (2m 100yd) on 11-7.

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Iain Macleod looks at the battle for supremacy on the slopes between Zurbriggen and Tomba

# Tomba wants a stirring sequel

The sequel to an international drama first witnessed last year, in which the two prominent characters are a Swiss and an Italian skier, has its premier tomorrow when the Austrian resort of Schladming hosts the opening World Cup races of the season.

Pirmin Zurbriggen against Alberto Tomba, is a gladiatorial clash in the making. Even the added incentive of the world championship at Vail, in the United States, will only briefly divert the two men from their private battle: procuring the World Cup overall title.

It is all a matter of motivation: for Zurbriggen, it is to be acclaimed by his peers as the finest all-round skier in history; for Tomba, it is to show that he can somehow overcome the disadvantage imposed by his non-participation in the downhill.

Tomba crowned last season by winning the Olympic slalom and giant slalom titles in Calgary. He also claimed the World Cup goblets by winning nine races only to discover that, although Zurbriggen won only two, his greater versatility prevailed in the overall competition.

Zurbriggen amassed points in all the technical disciplines: his 122 points in the downhill (and 30 in the combination) was in marked contrast to the Italian's zero rating.

Tomba, though, refuses to contemplate the downhill: too many risks he says. He has instead concentrated on improving his technique in super giant slalom; Zurbriggen, meanwhile, devoted considerable training time to refining his skills in the technical disciplines.

The contrasting lifestyles of the Italian playboy and the Swiss former choirboy add to the fascination of the contest but Zurbriggen has more than Tomba to concern himself with. Not least in the downhill where the Swiss have five skiers ranked in the top six.

Zurbriggen enters the fray as Olympic and World Cup champion. His "failure" in Calgary to win three titles only makes him more determined to add to his laurels. Zurbriggen is determined to regain the world title won in Bormio, Italy, in 1985.

And, the pressure for places may be alleviated by the fact that his successor, compatriot and great rival, Peter Müller, can defend his title by right thereby giving Switzerland five representatives, the na-



Figini: defending her titles

tion's strength and depth does not encourage complacency.

The non-Swiss downhillers will be much in evidence. Michael Mair, of Italy, second to Zurbriggen last season will try to go one better; and Canada's new generation of "Crazy Canucks", led by Rob Boyd will desperately want to atone for the collective disappointment in the Olympic Games.

And, for Britain, whose representatives usually filled more with hope than expectation, Martin Bell's marvellous eighth place in the Olympic downhill ensures a reversal of roles.

Bell enhanced the status considerably but now has to contend with the added pressure from a public who have come to relate the fulfilment of talent with a place on the victory podium.

For all the ballyhoo surrounding the Zurbriggen-Tomba duel, there is still much to anticipate in the technical disciplines. Indeed, if Mark Girardelli, of Luxembourg, who last season suffered abysmally from injury can rediscover his old form he may add another dimension to the battle for overall supremacy.

Franck Piccard, the young Frenchman who won the Olympic Super-G title has the talent to create further upset, while Tomba's role as favourite for the slalom and giant slalom titles may be undermined by the collective talent of Austria's superb technical specialists: Strolz, Mayer, Nierlich and Gstrein.

Michela Figini, another Swiss who last season won



Playboy of the skiing world: Alberto Tomba, the double Olympic gold medal winner, has to make up for lost downhill points

World Cup crystal but failed in Calgary will, like Zurbriggen, defend the overall, downhill and Super-G titles in the women's events.

Figini also has to keep the lid on her private feud with compatriot Maria Walliser, double world champion. The Swiss women collectively look formidable and Figini, Walliser and the much-improved Brigitte Oerli, should add to the role of honour.

The surprising retirement of Olympic downhill champion, Marina Kiehl, of West Germany, will not affect the event which in recent years has become something of a Swiss institution.

All the top Swiss also figured in the slaloms where, the Austrian resurgence in Calgary ensures that the likes of Anita Wachter and Sigrid

Wolf will challenge strongly in the months ahead. They will, however, miss the inspiration of World Cup slalom champion, Roswitha Steiner, who has retired.

Laurie Graham, of Canada, has also decided to call it a day. The torch he carried with such distinction for almost a decade now passes to youngster, Karen Percy, whose talent blossomed in Calgary to salvage the nation's Olympic honour by winning two bronze medals.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect will be the Swiss-Yugoslav joust in the slaloms. Vreni Schneider, the double Olympic gold medal winner, has donated the crown previously won by her compatriot Erika Hess, but knows that a recognized their apparent Mateja Svet, is poised to take over.

## WORLD CUP CALENDAR 1988-89

November 26 and 27: Schladming, Austria: Men's and women's super giant slalom.	5: Mollau, Austria: Women's slalom (SBG).
28 and 29: Val Thorens, France: Men's and women's giant slalom.	13 to 15: Grindelwald, Switzerland: Women's downhill, slalom and super giant slalom.
December 2 to 4: Val d'Isère, France: 2 men's slalom and a women's slalom (SBG).	17: Adelboden, Switzerland: Men's giant slalom.
5: Sestriere, Italy: Men's slalom.	20 and 21: Phorcen, West Germany: Women's downhill and super giant slalom.
10: Val Gardena, Italy: Men's downhill (SBG).	21 and 22: Wengen, Switzerland: Men's downhill, slalom and combination (SBG).
10 and 11: Crans-Montana, Switzerland: Women's downhill, slalom and combination (SBG).	22: Châtel, France: West Germany: Women's super giant slalom.
15 and 16: Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia: Men's slalom and giant slalom (SBG).	29 to February 12: Vail, United States: World Championships (SBG).
15: Altenmarkt, Austria: Women's slalom.	February 17 to 19: Aspen, United States: Men's downhill, giant slalom and super giant slalom.
17: Madonna di Campiglio, Italy: Men's slalom.	18 and 19: Lake Louise, Canada: Women's downhill.
18 and 19: Cortina, Italy: Women's slalom.	25 and 26: Whistler Mountain, Canada: Men's downhill and super giant slalom (SBG).
20: Courmayeur, Italy: Women's slalom.	26 and 27: Steamboat Springs, United States: Women's downhill and super giant slalom.
21: St. Anton, Austria: Men's downhill, slalom and combination (SBG).	March 3 to 5: Furano, Japan: Men's slalom and giant slalom; Women's slalom and giant slalom.
January 3 and 4, 1989: Maribor, Yugoslavia: Men's slalom and giant slalom.	9 to 12: Shigaoka, Japan: Men's slalom, giant slalom and parallel slalom; Women's slalom and parallel slalom.
6 and 7: Schwarzenberg, Austria: 2 Women's giant slaloms.	
7 and 8: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, West Germany: Men's downhill and super giant slalom (SBG).	

## RUGBY UNION: HALLIDAY COULD BE ABSENT THROUGHOUT THE TOSHIBA CHAMPIONSHIP

### Selectors delay choosing team

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Simon Halliday, the Bath and England centre will miss the first round of the Toshiba divisional championship and he will not know before next week what his prospects are of playing in the two subsequent games.

The South-West divisional selectors hope to be in a position today to announce their team to play London at Gloucester on December 3; the delay in their doing so centres round a replacement for Halliday, who captained the division to their 26-10 victory over the Australians last month.

Halliday, who misses the game at Cardiff tomorrow between the Barbarians and the Australians, will have had his injured leg in plaster for two weeks by Tuesday, when it is due to be removed. "The doctor said it was touch and go whether it went into plaster or not," he said.

"There should be no muscle wastage and assuming it is in good shape, I should be back training and playing in a couple of weeks. But I'm not going to play without being 100 per cent fit."

Halliday ruefully admits that nearly every year at this time, since he became involved in representative squads, he has sustained an injury, in this case stretched medial ligaments in the knee. The divisional selectors must, therefore, come to terms with the possibility that he will be unavailable throughout the championship and plan accordingly.

In the light of that, it is ironic that Laiety, the Neath centre, has declared for Wales - he is a member of the national squad from which the team to

play Romania on December 10 will be chosen. Laiety, a Cornishman, has played for Wales B and the unwritten agreement is that he is now beyond the English call, although there is no formal agreement to suggest that should be so.

Another Cornish contender for the South-West centre, Buzza, of Cambridge University, is also injured, although he hopes to be fit for selection for the University match, which falls three days after the divisional game at Gloucester.

Knibbs (Bristol) will be considered but, in view of his excellent display for Bath against Orrell last weekend, it seems a pity that Palmer has been injured in the first-class game because of his school duties at King Edward's in Bath. Richards, the Leicester No. 8 and the other withdrawal from the Barbarians team tomorrow because of a shoulder injury, hopes to have recovered in time to play for the Midlands in the other divisional match next week, against the North at Oley.

Kevin Hickey, who joined Coventry from Moseley this week, is named in Warwickshire's back row for Wednesday's Toshiba county championship group final against North Midlands at Coombe Road, Phil Bowman, who returns for Rugby on Saturday after suspension, lines up in the second row.

WARWICKSHIRE (Coventry unless stated): Steve Hall (Barrow Butts), A. Parson, J. Graham, C. Medford, Stuart Hall, M. Mason (Rugby), S. Thomas, H. Lawrie (Moseley), A. Farrington, T. Ryan (Rugby), M. Pleswood (Rugby), P. Brown (Rugby), N. Beck (Nottingham), R. Travers, K. Hickey.

### Campese likely to play

By David Hands

The prospects of Farr-Jones, the Australian captain, and Campese, their leading try-scorer, playing against the Barbarians in the final match of the British section of their tour, in Cardiff tomorrow, brightened yesterday when both came through fitness tests.

"It would have to be a major setback for them not to play," Bob Dwyer, the Australian coach, said. Farr-Jones sustained ankle-joint damage in Cardiff tomorrow, brightened yesterday when both came through fitness tests.

The Australians trained at Sophia Gardens yesterday, not quite as idly as Dwyer would have wished, with Hartmeyer, the Australian captain, looking to familiarize himself with the hooking duties.

McBain, the reserve to Tom Lawton, is still troubled by the injury to his collarbone which he suffered against the Combined Services on Tuesday and Hartmeyer may be required in the hooking role among the replacements.

BUCHAREST - Workmen have been called in to clear the pitch of snow so that the rugby union international between Romania and France can go ahead at the Giulesti stadium here on Saturday (AFP reports). France won the corresponding match last year 49-3 in Agen.

ROMANIA: M. Toader, S. Hondoci, A. Lungu, N. Fulina, N. Roșanu, G. Igrăș, D. Nădăreț, G. Lăpuș, G. Ion, I. Dumitrescu, G. Ciocă, H. Dumitru, A. Radulescu, M. Văduva, I. Doja, Replacements: A. Căciula, Z. Vasile, T. Croian, O. Săgar, S. Ciocă, C. Morăreanu (Wales).

### Gresham's win all 14 games

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

Wrekin are enjoying one of their best seasons in recent years. They toured British Columbia at half term and lost only to Semanor, a club side with three Canadian internationals. Of the other games, one was won and the other two drawn. Wrekin have nine wins and three defeats from their domestic campaign and no results will have pleased them more than victories over Belmont Abbey, 13-12, and Monmouth 6-4.

Gresham's early undefeated tour to France certainly paid dividends and they now claim the excellent record of 14 wins from 14 matches. They survived a demanding encounter with Rhyd Y Holbrook, who had lost only to C&O at the interval, though Gresham's had had a try disallowed, the 8-3 victory coming with two tries to a penalty.

Ellesmere's superb run of 10 wins from 10 games ended when they lost 12-11 to Bromsgrove and another record when Cheltenham, previously unbeaten, lost 18-4 to a hard, efficient Marlborough.

King's, Worcester, have won their last seven matches, to earn 11 wins from 14 games. Their most recent victories were against Hereford Cathedral, 43-0, and Bablake, 31-9. They have been well served by their former England 16 group No. 8, Nigel Richardson, who scored three tries against Bablake.

A 9-0 half-time lead could not earn victory for Bedford against Rugby, who played strongly in the second half to beat Bedford 14-12, thanks largely to two good tries by their left wing, Tim Penn. Sevenoaks, are going well with nine wins from 11 matches. They were extended by Taubridge in their 14-12 win, but the try count was three to one.

RGS High Wycombe have seven wins from nine matches. They started the season with victory in the Windsor Festival, beating Cranbrook in the final and have lost only to Epsom and St Edmund's, Oxford, in nine matches this season.

Wells Cathedral School are prospering with recent victories over Milton Abbot, 10-9, All Hallows, 15-13, Prior Park, 10-0, and King's, Bruton, 13-12. Kirkham GS, despite defeats by Arundel and Russell are gaining in experience and have won their last two games against St Bees away and RGS Lancaster. They have seven wins from 10 matches.

### Thomas leaves a solid foundation

By Gerald Davies

It was quite a blow to Neath this week when their side and mentor over the past five years, Brian Thomas, announced his resignation. His influence was shown by the colourful way he was referred to locally as "the Ayatollah" or "Genghis Khan". That might suggest less a type of autocratic nature, which he did not necessarily impose and would quite often disclaim, than that he possessed a physical presence, intimidating to some, which lent a certain truth to the nicknames.

What is undeniable is that he introduced to British rugby the idea of a team manager to give direction to a club's affairs. He had a firm grip on the running of Neath's administration.

Since winning the Welsh Cup in 1972, Neath had not enjoyed much success. Thomas's managerial qualities changed that, as they once did, and, once again, the club has become a force to be reckoned with. Although they have won the championship during this time, they have been runners-up twice in the more elusive quest for the Cup.

If this is an outward demonstration of his influence on club rugby in Wales, even more significant are the changes occurring within the club, where many new and young players were introduced.

Neath have a large squad and Thomas and his coaches, Ron and Waldron and Glen, have managed to utilize it and to bring out the best of all the players at various times. In this sense, Neath are in a healthy position for years to come.

Thomas was able to shoulder the responsibilities, as he once did in the Welsh second row, but he knew the value of delegating. Neath runs smoothly as much for this quality as for his commanding personality. Suddenly, with his singular brand of success, other clubs tried to follow the pattern. But they did not realize that it is not the creation of a post within a club that is important, but the quality and the vision of the man who assumes the position. One Welsh club rashly decided to follow Neath's example only to find that they used the services of three men in as many months.

### Hill must sit out cup match

By Steven Downes

The European governing body, LEN, awarded this year's Europa Cup to Edinburgh to celebrate the Scottish ASA's centenary, though there will be few Scots joining the party in the water on December 9-10. Only three were included in the British team announced yesterday: Rik Lashman, Ruth Gillman and Jean Hill.

Hill, however, has already rejected her selection. Anyone who saw the distress she was in after racing at Cumbria would know that the viral infection she has had since the summer has not improved. Yesterday, Hill said doctors had advised her to take a complete rest. She would not return to training until the New Year.

That leaves a squad of 23, with Suki Brownson likely to take Hill's place in the 200 metres medley. Brownson's other event, the 100 metres breaststroke, is also another debatable choice. Brownson is better regarded over 200 metres, with Maggie Hohmann looked upon as the sprinter, but following the Wigton clubmen's races at Cumbria last two weeks ago, the selectors have decided to reverse the usual order of things.

That, though, has been the pattern of selection for the Cup meeting, sponsored by Sun Life Assurance, as the selectors have concentrated on recent racing form rather than relying on Olympic reputations. Ten of the team for Edinburgh were not in Seoul.

While Madeleine Scarborough, an Olympic omission, earned her place in this team with good swims in last week's short-course championships, including the 100 metres, she is not in the team for Edinburgh.

Grant Robins, who made the "mistake" of setting an English record for the 200 metres medley in the wrong race at Plymouth last week, has been chosen for the 100 metres backstroke.

SUN LIFE EUROPEAN CUP TEAM: Men: 100m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 200m: M. Scarborough (Wigan Wasps), 400m: P. Hill (City of Edinburgh), 800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 1000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 1200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 1500m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 1600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 1800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 2000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 2200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 2400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 2600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 2800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 3000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 3200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 3400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 3600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 3800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 4000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 4200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 4400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 4600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 4800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 5000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 5200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 5400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 5600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 5800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 6000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 6200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 6400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 6600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 6800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 7000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 7200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 7400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 7600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 7800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 8000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 8200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 8400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 8600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 8800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 9000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 9200m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 9400m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 9600m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 9800m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps), 10000m: G. Brownson (Wigan Wasps).

## Scots step into breach to help Dark Blues

By Steven Downes

Oxford University will not play United Hospitals tomorrow (David Hands writes). Instead, as their final match before playing Cambridge at Twickenham on December 6, London Scottish will go to Ilford Road on Tuesday.

United Hospitals withdrew because they felt unable to raise a side strong enough (possibly having seen the 82 points scored by Oxford against Dublin University) and the Scottish were happy to fill the gap in what will be a stern finale to the university's preparations.

Indeed the Scottish have been keen to re-establish relations with both the universities, temporarily severed by the need to revise their list to take in league fixtures. Oxford and Cambridge are an obvious recruitment source for all the London clubs, the Scottish in particular.

Cambridge have their final preparation match versus Neath at the Gnoil tonight. Hancock, their captain, is resting severely

bruised fingers and James will play scrum half. Hill leads the team, which will be led by Wainwright, the Scottish flanker, who has been named in the Scotland side to play Italy in a B international at L'Aquila 48 hours before the University match.

University officials hope to talk to the Scottish Rugby Union.

The Welsh Rugby Union has invited Pontypool to give their version of the Schweppes Cup dispute involving Vardre (Owen Jenkins writes). Vardre has protested that Pontypool fielded an ineligible player in the 10-9 victory on Saturday. Rod Morgan, chairman of the cup competition committee, said: "We have written to Pontypool to present their case before making a decision." Ivor Taylor, the Pontypool match secretary, said: "A committee meeting has discussed the matter and we will send an explanation to the WRU as soon as possible."

## BOXING

### Graham's pursuit of world title is revived by Ingle

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

After his amazing feat of emerging from a British title bout against the knock-out specialist, Johnny Melia, of Gloucester, without so much as a scratch on him, Herol Graham can be forgiven for thinking that he can become the undisputed world middleweight champion.

Graham wants to meet all three champions, starting with Iran Barkley, the World Boxing Council title holder, followed by Sumbu Kalambay, the World Boxing Association champion and the only man to have beaten him in 42 contests, and then Michael Nunn, who holds the International Boxing Federation belt.

Barkley is the easiest of the three and best suited to Graham's style, but he may have to take on Kalambay first because his manager, B J Eastwood, has already made arrangements for a world title bout with the WBA champion in February.

After his fifth round victory over Melia at York Hall, Bethnal Green, London, on Wednesday, Graham said: "I think I have grown up about four years since the Kalambay fight because I never want to be defeated again. What I want is to reverse the decision against Kalambay."

The bout will most likely be in Italy because Kalambay does not want to come to Britain, having turned down a \$500,000 offer from Eastwood. But Frank Warren, who staged the York Hall show, wants to bid for it. "It's a fight I would like to put on. As a return match it would be a natural attraction," Warren said.

Warren believes that it would

be best if the contest went to purse offers because Kalambay's insistence on boxing in Italy would mean a very high bid from the Italians. "Graham could finish up with more than £120,000," Warren said.

The match against Melia had looked a good one on paper, but immediately after the first bell it became evident that Graham was far too good for Melia. On that performance he will probably be too good for Nigel Benn and Michael Watson: the other two British middleweights who fancy their chances against him.

Graham's success can be put down to the revival of his partnership with Brendan Ingle, which had faded away when Eastwood brought in Pansani to make Graham into an "exciting" fighter.

Under Ingle again, Graham has reverted to his clever-clever stuff but with more aggression. On Wednesday night he looked leaner, hungrier, sharper and stronger than ever before.

Ingle had said: "You will see the old Graham but with a few more tricks up his sleeve." He was right, judging by the way the champion proceeded to toy with Melia about by pushing him to the floor five times in the first round. In between teasing, he clipped him round the ears and on the nose until the challenger was bloodied, bruised and befuddled.

With Ingle in charge you can always expect the unexpected, a carefully planned strategy and some unusual moves. No one will be more surprised than Kalambay when he makes his mandatory defence against the No. 1 contender.

## BOWLS

### Weary teams wait for rivals to slip

From David Rhys Jones, Auckland

Tired competitors in the sixth women's World Championships yesterday enjoyed a welcome respite from their gruelling schedule, which has sometimes required them to be on the green for more than 12 hours a day.

Some, such as the England triple and the Botswana pair, found a day of shopping and sightseeing relaxing in the knowledge that they have, after four days' sustained effort, qualified for the finals tomorrow. For others, such as the Scottish triple and the English pair, the rest day was a tense pause, giving them time to reflect on the missed chances of the opening round-robin matches as they wait to see if their rivals will place in the finals slip at the last moment.

Scotland's chances of qualifying for the triples final rest on the unlikely event of Australia failing to win by two or more against Papua New Guinea. England will have to be content with playing for the pairs bronze medal if Ireland, as they should, beat Western Samoa today.

These championships, for the first time, have seen competitors sporting coloured tabards to identify which of the 23 countries they are representing. Fears that the white and cream

dignity of women's bowls would suffer and that, as one British official put it, "the girls will look like a school netball team" were unfounded.

The colours are an attractive addition to the event, and the International Women's Bowling Board has confirmed that the innovation will become a regular feature.

Discussion has also taken place about the feasibility of helping countries with travel expenses, such as the Scottish triple and the English pair, the rest day was a tense pause, giving them time to reflect on the missed chances of the opening round-robin matches as they wait to see if their rivals will place in the finals slip at the last moment.

Swaziland withdrew at a late stage from the championships, and Jersey sent a depleted team of three, upsetting the balance of the draw.

The unexpected but agreeable success of Singapore, Cook Islands and Norfolk Island, who have won 20 games out of 60 so far, suggests that countries competing for the first time should be encouraged. Quite apart from the skill they display, their presence adds a richness to this international festival.

## CYCLING

### Elliott concentrates on Spain for new sponsor

By Peter Bryan

Malcolm Elliott, Britain's outstanding professional road rider of the year, yesterday switched his Spanish sponsors for 1989. He signed for Tekla, fitted kitchen and electrical specialists, and left Fagor, the team captained by Stephen Roche, the former world champion.

Elliott, who won this year's Kellogg's Tour of Britain and was second in the Nissan classic, will be teamed with another Briton, Darryl Webster, a first year professional who won stage winner in the Nissan race. Elliott's link with Tekla is likely to see him racing principally in Spain, starting with the season's opening event, the Ruta del Sol, at the end of January.

Tekla, which fields a 22-strong squad, was Spain's top team this year. Elliott said yesterday that he was looking forward to the

new season with them. "There's no problem for me," he said. "I've ridden with a Spanish team in the past and am sure I'll be able to settle in very quickly."

His priorities will be the Pays Basque race and the Tour of Spain; he won a stage in the latter this season and can expect to be in the running as the team's leader next year.

Webster was delighted to learn of Elliott's signing. "It will be really good to have another name in the team. I don't know Malcolm that closely, but I am certain that we will work well together."

Webster has hardly ridden since early October, preferring to have a complete winter break, but he starts training in earnest next week, a month earlier than usual, in order to go to Spain next January in good condition and to make an early impression.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated	FOOTBALL
Barclays League	
Third division	
Cardiff v Brentford (7.45)	
Fourth division	
Colchester v Darlington	
Grove v Peterborough	
Stockport v Tranmere	
RUGBY UNION	
CLUB MATCHES (7.15): Ebbw Vale v South Glamorgan; Llanelli v Carmarthen; Pontypool v Newport; Tredegar v Merthyr.	
OTHER SPORT	
BADMINTON: Scottish open (Edinburgh).	
JUDO: European junior championships (Glasgow).	
HOCKEY: Women's county championship: Midlands; Leicestershire v	

## SPORT ON TV

BASEBALL: 1988: ITV 4.5 a.m. tomorrow.	
SNOKER: BBC1 11.20 p.m.-12.45 a.m. tomorrow: Tennent's United Kingdom championship (Preston).	
SQUASH RACKET: Intercity National championships (Bristol).	
SWIMMING: TSB Welsh winter championships (Newport).	
TENNIS: Prudential national championships (Queen's Club, West Kensington).	

## TRY THIS

Paul Maher's suggestion for a sporting day out

RALLYCROSS INTERNATIONAL: Cadwell Park is the only custom-built racing circuit in England. On Sunday the parkland track, set in the Lincolnshire Wolds, stages the final round of the British Open and the BRDA International Rallycross Championships across tarmac, chalk and hills. Parking at trackside or on the grass. Some spectacular views of the drivers negotiating corners, gradients and curves over hard and loose surfaces.

The Formula 4 turbo-charged cars are very fast and will reach speeds approaching 100 m.p.h. on the straights. The British Open champion, Mark Roninson, of

Meltonby, North Yorkshire, who drives a Ford RS200 in this class, is favourite to win. He has won the title for three years. John Welch, from Fleet, leads the BRDA International Rallycross Championship, having overcome handling problems with his Opel Astra. With double points on offer, he could be crowned for the title by Michael Shield, of Glastonbury.

How to get there: Cadwell Park circuit, Old Manor House, Cadwell Park, Louth (Tel. 053784 249). Louth. Admission is 25p for adults with children free. Practice starts at 8.30 a.m. with the first heat at 11.30 a.m.



## MOTOR RALLYING

# Romantic ending as Alen triumphs for the first time

By Andrew Longmore

A rally which has flirted with failure and defied logic finally ended in romance for Markku Alen, of Finland, in Harrogate yesterday.

After a dramatic, not to say traumatic, five days and 1,750 miles, Alen's Lancia emerged from the last 11 stages through Yorkshire with a precious lead of four minutes and six seconds over the Mazda of the former world champion, Timo Salonen, with the last surviving Toyota of Bjorn Waldegard in third.

When victory was finally sealed after the last of the 32 special stages, there was a display of Latin emotion such as the good people of Harrogate can rarely have seen. The Lancia team danced, hugged, and kissed on the forecourt of the local petrol station — not because it was another victory for the McLaren-like Lancia but because it was a victory for their adopted son, Markku, his first in the RAC after 15 years.

Overnight Juba Kankkunen led by 66 seconds from Hannu Mikkola with Alen more than three minutes behind. On the first stage of the day, Kankkunen stretched his lead further, but within sight of the finish of stage 44, he hit a patch of ice and catapulted off

the road, hitting a tree and damaging his inter-cooler. With Kankkunen out, Mikkola inherited a lead of a minute and a half, but then, he too crashed out as a tight hairpin on the Langdale stage.

Although nobody was going to say it after the lead had changed hands eight times during the rally, that effectively was that. Alen, with a three-minute lead, was able to slow down, although typically he won his 26th stage on the last stage of the rally.

Behind all the fun and games, Salonen brought the Mazda into an untrodden second place, the team's best result on a world championship rally this year, while Waldegard continued on his way steadily, despite further punctures. But the perfor-

mance of the rally perhaps came from the West German, Armin Schwarz, who drove his heavy Audi 200 like a veteran in his first RAC rally and finished a remarkable fifth.

For Britain there was at least one consolation in that the British-built Ford cars won the manufacturer's team prize.

But in the end Alen took the honours and he is now the most successful driver in the history of rallying with 119 world championship victories. For a while, in his moment of triumph, the Fin's limited grasp of the English language seemed about to slip away completely.

"Starting many times. Never win. Really happy. Fantastic," he said. You know what he meant.

LEADING FINAL POSITIONS (32 special stages — 370.25 miles): 1. Markku Alen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 15min 37sec; 2. Hannu Mikkola (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 21min 55sec; 3. Timo Salonen (Fin), Mazda 626, 7hr 22min 16sec; 4. P. Armin Schwarz (Ger), Audi 200, 7hr 23min 45sec; 5. Bjorn Waldegard (Swe), Toyota Celica, 7hr 24min 22sec; 6. B. Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 24min 22sec; 7. G. Salonen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 24min 22sec; 8. J. Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 24min 22sec; 9. J. Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 24min 22sec; 10. J. Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 7hr 24min 22sec.

## FOOTBALL

## Howe gives picture of future tactics

By Clive White

Difficult though it may be for the pundits to accept, England could be playing the Wimbledon way before much longer. Don Howe, the England coach, hinted yesterday that the national team might adopt such a direct style of play in the future — but not under the management of Bobby Robson.

"I could be that Graham Taylor (I don't know whether he will get the job when Bobby leaves) may decide that a direct style suits us better. I don't think Bobby would try it though," Howe said.

Howe has grown to respect the Wimbledon method since he agreed to assist Bobby Robson with coaching at the club last season. But one senses that he sets it more as a last resort at giving England international success than as a style.

As he says, "If you haven't got the players who can play the ball out from the back, then this style is worth looking at. There would not be any harm in trying it at international level. I think it is more to it than people think. I was surprised at the amount of thought that had been put into their play. It's a lot deeper than people give it credit for."

## Wembley rematch at Colne

Non-League football by Paul Newman

The 128-strong draw for the second round of the FA Vase featured its usual assortment of obscure names. The 61 East Cotes Victoria Athletic and Lawrence Weston Hallen to mention just three — but when last season's finalists met their first appearance in this season's competition tomorrow night, it is no need for introductions.

Colne Dynamos and Emley could be forgiven for cursing their luck at being drawn together, but both welcome the encounter. Graham White, the manager of Colne, the holders who have home advantage, said: "Our biggest problem this season could have been complacency. A lot of Vase winners have gone out early in previous years because of that, but this match has really got us stirred up."

"The Vase is more important than ever to us because it's the last time we can enter before we switch to the FA Trophy. From our experience last season we know what a good competition it is and with an improved side we can win it again."

For Emley, the match offers

the chance to make up for the belief that they did not do themselves justice at Wembley. Barry Quinn, the manager, said: "Our approach play was excellent and we created plenty of chances, but we didn't force our goalkeeper to make one decent save."

Since joining the HFS Loans League (formerly Northern League), Colne have dropped or transferred eight of the 13 players who were on duty at Wembley. Newcomers include Alan Kennedy, the former Liverpool and England defender, and Colin Russell, formerly with Wigan Athletic, Scarborough and Doncaster Rovers. Last week Colne paid their first transfer fee, signing Barry Stimpson from Morecambe for £6,000 and Ray Woods from Caernarfon Town for £2,500.

Colne's practice of playing as many league games as possible in the first half of the season has again paid off. Having created more than half their fixtures they are unbeaten and lead the first division table.

Emley's attempt to join the Northern Premier League failed because their facilities were considered inadequate. A programme of improvements is already under way — excavation work for a 250-seat stand had to be halted during a reserve match last week because the opposing manager objected to the noise and having dropped only four points they remain leaders of the Northern Counties East League premier division table.

Francis, sold to Sheffield United for £5,000 with a promise of a further £5,000 after 20 appearances, and Carlisle, sold to Luton for £5,000, will have left. Quinn said: "I thought keeping players might be a problem, particularly as we are strictly amateur, but they are very loyal and enjoy their club life here."

Both clubs have prospered at the gate this season — Colne are averaging about 700 and Emley 500 — and a capacity attendance of up to 3,000 is expected tomorrow, although the exact limit will be decided at a meeting with police today. However, with snow on the ground there is already the danger of a postponement until next Saturday.

Baxter scored two second-half goals to put Wednesday night's semi-final tie out of the reach of Glenaville. The Irish side were unable to take their unbeaten run to 20 matches and Baxter lifting his goal tally to eight in seven games.

average himself on Darren Hall for his defeat in the European final.

DARLINGTON RESULTS (English names): 1. Manx (Ireland) 2. Glenaville (Ireland) 3. Wexford (Ireland) 4. Wexford (Ireland) 5. Wexford (Ireland) 6. Wexford (Ireland) 7. Wexford (Ireland) 8. Wexford (Ireland) 9. Wexford (Ireland) 10. Wexford (Ireland) 11. Wexford (Ireland) 12. Wexford (Ireland) 13. Wexford (Ireland) 14. Wexford (Ireland) 15. Wexford (Ireland) 16. Wexford (Ireland) 17. Wexford (Ireland) 18. Wexford (Ireland) 19. Wexford (Ireland) 20. Wexford (Ireland) 21. Wexford (Ireland) 22. Wexford (Ireland) 23. Wexford (Ireland) 24. Wexford (Ireland) 25. Wexford (Ireland) 26. Wexford (Ireland) 27. Wexford (Ireland) 28. Wexford (Ireland) 29. Wexford (Ireland) 30. Wexford (Ireland) 31. Wexford (Ireland) 32. Wexford (Ireland) 33. Wexford (Ireland) 34. Wexford (Ireland) 35. Wexford (Ireland) 36. Wexford (Ireland) 37. Wexford (Ireland) 38. Wexford (Ireland) 39. Wexford (Ireland) 40. Wexford (Ireland) 41. Wexford (Ireland) 42. Wexford (Ireland) 43. Wexford (Ireland) 44. Wexford (Ireland) 45. 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# SPORT

tomorrow...

Nine pages  
of the best of  
the action  
at home  
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In colour:  
inside the  
secret world of  
the stewards' inquiry

Back to basics:  
from Europe  
to the bottom  
of the third  
division

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right hand: a  
remarkable  
man of  
rackets

Under threat:  
the great  
tradition of  
Baa-Baas  
rugby

## Britain sent too many people to Olympics

By Louise Taylor

Britain sent too many competitors, including some carrying serious injuries and others who barely achieved the qualifying standard, to the Olympic Games in Seoul, Dick Palmer, general secretary of the British Olympic Association (BOA), said yesterday.

With 386 competitors and about 100 officials, Britain sent its largest-ever team. Palmer's report on the Games to the BOA urges tighter controls on people sent to the Olympics, and questions why some sports took more com-

petitors to South Korea than to their European or World championships. "The whole selection procedure must be carefully analysed," he said. "You do not have to be a medal contender to compete with distinction. In some cases in September I did not feel this was the case."

Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of the BOA, is in accord with his secretary on the issue: "I take the same view as Dick Palmer. We have discussed it and we both think alike."

It is Palmer's personal view that there should be increased

liaison between the BOA and the various sporting bodies. "I am not saying we should only send people who, on their current record, have a chance of winning a medal, that is going too far. After all, you get surprise winners at every Olympics."

"Nor am I saying that the BOA should dictate to the various bodies, but there should be far more liaison on selection, and some sort of quality control."

"I don't believe people are picked just because there is a feeling Britain gains in pres-

tige by having a huge team parade around at the opening ceremony. I do believe that some sports officials think it looks impressive if they have a big delegation."

Regarding the competitors who arrived in Seoul dogged by injury, Palmer would like to see the establishment of a special body to assess fitness. "We must be more critical about analysing how fit people are," he said.

Palmer is concerned that the BOA finances the British team through appeals for financial aid and sponsorship,

"The BOA picks up the bill for the Olympics, but this is public money and should not be wasted on people who have barely scraped through the qualifying standard."

Derek Stubbs, spokesman for the British Amateur Swimming Association, disagreed. "We sent our best 39 swimmers to Seoul but whether that was too many is open to argument; we don't think so," he said.

"The Olympics only happen every four years and when people have worked their bottoms off for those four years

we owe it to them to take as many as possible. It's not good policy to say please compete in everything but the Olympics. That is the way to ruin a sport."

"If a small town has an Olympic swimmer that town goes overboard, it raises everyone's awareness of swimming and encourages people to take up the sport."

Stubbs, however, has no quibble with Palmer regarding injured swimmers. "Nobody should go to an Olympics if they are not fit to compete."

Athletes form the biggest contingent in any British

Olympic team and 104 went to Seoul. Tony Ward, the British Amateur Athletics Board spokesman, believes that was about the right number. "Even those who have just attained the Olympic standard have still achieved it and there is no point having such a standard if that is not the criteria for qualification," he said.

"Take the example of Mike Rosswess, who reached the final of the 200 metres. In other years he may not have been selected, but he pulled off a big surprise, which is what the Olympics is about."

END COLUMN

## The role of milch cow not for IOC

From David Miller, Moscow

Juan Antonio Samaranch departed for home from the second UNESCO international conference of sports ministers here yesterday. Collaboration on drug detection is one thing. Any suggestion of administrative inter-dependence is another.

The president of the International Olympic Committee preferred to leave the ministers to get on with achieving a resolution on drug testing, with some guidance from Prince Alexandre de Merode, the chairman of the IOC medical commission. The IOC with careful, subversive persistence, likes it to be seen that UNESCO needs them more than vice versa.

For 16 years, ever since the Olympic crisis of Munich, and subsequently of Montreal, UNESCO has attempted to pull the IOC under its wing, for one essential reason. While Education, Science and Culture are legitimate social activities for UNESCO, they lack one significant function of sport and, particularly since 1972, of the IOC. They do not make money.

UNESCO needs money. It has little income besides subscriptions — some of which are not paid — and is said to spend a disproportionate amount of its budget, maybe over 50 per cent, on administration.

## A takeover bid to be firmly resisted

Director generals of UNESCO saw the advantage of bringing sport within their field of influence under the definition of physical education. René Maheu, of France, and Amadou M'bow, of Senegal, past holders of the office, made persistent overtures to the IOC which had to be resisted by Lord Killanin, the IOC president prior to Samaranch. He pointed out that UNESCO could not conceivably administer Olympic sport because they could not pay the officials.

UNESCO would dearly like to administer the Olympic Solidarity Fund, which dispenses aid to National Olympic Committees. The IOC is not slow to observe that were this to happen, the percentage of aid reaching the athlete would diminish. The Solidarity Fund at present has a total staff of four secretaries and one part-time director.

Five years ago Samaranch alarmed some sports officials by signing an agreement with UNESCO. This was typical of his diplomacy, by which he disarms the adversary by offering him dinner. The agreement went no further than identification of mutual objectives. The relationship had moved during 16 years from confrontation through neutrality to collaboration, but UNESCO still had none of the Olympic income.

## Ideally qualified to follow Samaranch

Prince Merode is well suited to persuade the ministers to support the IOC initiative of drug testing, in line with the international charter created with Canada last summer. Merode addressed the conference yesterday and stressed the educational role of government.

It is his view that commercial, social and coaching pressures upon competitors, as much as personal greed, are a factor in drug abuse. The guilty winner may benefit, but for every medal winner there are a hundred disillusioned, failed and possibly broken competitors, without funds, a job or a future. The conference took the hint and resolved to support the IOC on every front. Yesterday's resolution also called for global government control on the acquisition and distribution of sports enhancing drugs.

When Samaranch retires, in 1993, the Belgian prince, with a thousand years of aristocratic heritage, could be a popular candidate as successor. He is dedicated to the Olympic ethic, represents no political, geographic or ideological group. Nor does he need the job. His independence is, ironically, much respected by some of the socialist countries.

## Costly ITV gamble is slow to pay off

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The viewing figures for *The Match*, the ITV programme which offers live coverage of first division fixtures on Sundays, have fallen far below expectations. A spokesman said yesterday that the first available statistics were "bitterly disappointing".

The opening game between Everton and Manchester United, on October 30, attracted a home audience of only 5.8 million. A week later 100,000 fewer viewers watched Nottingham Forest and Arsenal. Having paid £44 million for the exclusive rights to show League football, ITV were looking for a total of at least eight million.

They were pushed into bidding an inflated price in the summer by the persistence of their rivals in the auction, the BBC and BS2. The deal threatens to be a painfully expensive mistake. In effect, at seven times the cost, ITV have so far succeeded in no more than retaining their television public.

Their 10 live matches last season were seen by an average audience of 5.7 million. Then, sharing the coverage with the BBC, the contract was worth a mere £1.6 million a year. Now it is valued at £11 million. Predictably, the spokesman suggested that the picture for ITV will grow brighter and the reception will be broader.

The figures for the first two games last season were 4.1 million and 4.9 million, so they are better this season and we are sure that they will improve. We are optimistic, for instance, that the figures for Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham will be higher."

If so, the improvement would not necessarily be significant. Since the country was temporarily transformed into Siberia last Sunday, it would be surprising if many were not persuaded to stay indoors. Even the crowd at Hillsborough was low.

As well as apparently paying an excessive amount of money for nothing, ITV are in danger of losing the sympathy,

and perhaps the co-operation, of the clubs. Their schedule over the forthcoming holiday period might have been designed to antagonize Liverpool, Manchester and London.

Liverpool's visit to Old Trafford is to be staged on January 1 in front of the cameras, instead of on New Year's Eve. The champions,

More football, page 43

alarmed by the prospect of having to play again within 24 hours, asked the League if they could entertain Aston Villa on Christmas Eve, instead of January 2.

The request was denied. The League argued that, as the other 90 clubs are to compete in two full programmes on the Saturday and the Monday, Liverpool and Villa would unjustifiably be given an extra day to prepare for the third round of the FA Cup.

The clubs in the capital were equally dismayed to hear that, for the sake of ITV, the derby between Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane

January 2, is to start at 5pm. The five hosts in London the same day (Millwall, Queen's Park Rangers, West Ham United, Crystal Palace and Fulham) fear that their crowds, traditionally among the largest of the season, will consequently be reduced. All are considering bringing forward their own kick-offs.

Amid the winter's discontent and enforced rearrangements, ITV's lone conciliatory move has been to appease the followers of the unforgotten League leaders. Instead of witnessing Nottingham Forest challenge Manchester United on Boxing Day, the nation is to watch Norwich City at home to West Ham.

The supporters of United can scarcely complain. Their team will be featured for the second time this season on Sunday. Even if all of them tune in to St James's Park, ITV can never hope to scale the peaks once reached by the BBC. To think that *Match of the Day* attracted more than 12 million viewers.



In trouble: a nervous Mansell tries to get out of this scrape after some wayward driving

## No champagne but it is not all rough going for Mansell

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Sydney

You would have thought that for a man who regularly puts his life on the line when lowering himself into a Formula One racing car that Nigel Mansell would have found playing here in the Australian Open golf championship a mere stroll in the park. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"I had to keep telling myself to breathe," Mansell said, after a first round of 77. "I was panting out there. I was so pumped up that I felt I aged 10 years before I even got to the first tee."

There Mansell looked anything but a man accustomed to duelling with bends like Druids. He laughed nervously when his caddy, Greg Albright, a one-handed golfer from Idaho, whispered: "Let's have some fun." Then he tentatively shook hands with his playing partners.

Bill Dunk, the veteran Australian, and Charles Pettit, the Royal Sydney professional,

This was his first experience of golf at this level. "I didn't sleep a wink thinking about it," he admitted. "I don't drink but I had a double brandy to go to bed on. Even that didn't work."

Mansell had a tee time of 1.15. He wanted to leave for the course directly after breakfast. Norman said: "Nigel was so nervous that I had to take the car keys away from him. He wanted to get to the course far too early."

Norman, playing two matches ahead of Mansell, took him through the first hole. Mansell, however, still had his following. So it could not have helped when he struck his opening shot left and towards two unsuspecting spectators. They survived and so did Mansell.

He received a free drop from ground under repair and he salvaged his par. When he holed from 15 feet for a birdie at the fourth he was one under par and on the leader board.

"Then I virtually froze," he said. "At the fifth I pulled my tee shot into a bush. My arms and forearms simply locked. I should have stepped away from the shot but I had started to squeeze the club, as you do when you're driving in a Grand Prix, and of course the tighter you grip then the worse it is."

Mansell dropped two shots at that hole. He eventually played the outward half in 39. It was a

respectable performance and he dropped only another three shots before producing a grandstand finish by hitting an eight-iron approach to within 14 inches of the hole for a birdie three at the last.

"Nigel Norman, I presume," cried one wag in the crowd. Mansell nodded, removed his hat and holed out. Mansell had not been disgraced. "I'm pleased the day is over," he said. "I'm thrilled to bits to have shot a reasonable score. Somebody up there was looking after me."

There was no chequered flag, no champagne to spray, no lap of honour. Just the knowledge that he had to go out again, 24 hours later, and score lower if he wanted to survive the halfway guillotine. Then again, nothing could be worse than that day in Adelaide two years ago when he was in two minds whether to retire from Formula One racing after for one split second in the Australian Grand Prix seeing the other side of paradise.

"My wife encouraged me to race again after that," he said. "But while there is nothing to match the tension you feel on the grid, I've never felt more nervous than I have here over the last three days."

"I could take one or two years off and see how much better I can become as a golfer. Quite honestly, I wish I had taken this sport up in the first place rather than motor racing."

## Warren to give up licence

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Warren is to give up his licence as a boxing promoter. Warren, who has advised the British Boxing Board of Control of his decision, said yesterday that his last promotion would be the all-Welsh affair between Floyd Havard, the British super-featherweight champion, and Robert Dickie at the Afan Lido, Aberavon, on January 20. Barry McGuigan's world title bout against Azumah Nelson will either be brought forward or go on under a different banner.

Warren would not say why

he had decided on this course of action but said that he had given his reasons in his letter to the board. "I have written to the British Boxing Board of Control today to inform them that I am ceasing to be a promoter. I will be giving them my reasons. I will stay as a manager — I don't need a promoter's licence any more," he said.

"You wake up one day and think 'What am I doing this for?' The main thing I think I have achieved is to run up a massive bill for Anadin. But I think I have opened the sport

up for fighters. I have promoted more British, European and world title fights than anyone else in the short time I have been a promoter and I feel boxers themselves are now better paid," Warren said.

Warren, aged 36, made a significant contribution to boxing through his aggressive and imaginative style of promotion and became a powerful figure in British sport. He has several business interests other than boxing.

His decision to quit could be the result of legal bouts he has had in eight years against rival promoters, the board and, recently, Nigel Benn, the unbeaten middleweight.

There is nothing to stop Warren operating from behind the scenes, as he believes some people are doing. He could be more of a problem to his rivals without a licence. He would certainly not be open to the conflict of interests accusation so often levelled at a manager who wears a promoter's hat as well. The irony of it all is that it was Warren who successfully organized opposition to the boxing board's plan to stop licence holders being manager-promoters.

## A supreme optimist

A mystery tennis player has backed himself heavily to become Britain's first Wimbledon men's singles champion for over 50 years. If the bet is a winner he will collect a pay out of £2.5 million.

The player's identity will be revealed at Queen's Club on Monday by the bookmakers, William Hill, whose spokesman, Graham Sharpe, said

## New legal wrangle for Tyson

New York (AP) — Mike Tyson is to go to court in Manhattan again to try to extricate himself from a managerial contract with Bill Cayton, a course of action which could place his proposed February 25 date with Frank Bruno, of Britain, at risk.

At the heart of this latest legal battle is a four-year promotional agreement between Tyson and Don King, the American promoter, which Cayton called "despicable".

"I wouldn't let a stranger sign a contract like that," Cayton, who released the 10-page document on Wednesday, said. The contract provides for Don King Productions (DKP) to promote three bouts a year for Tyson. For each contest, the undisputed heavyweight champion would receive a \$1 million purse, \$200,000 in training expenses and two-thirds of net receipts. Tyson would then pay DKP 20 per cent of those receipts.

Cayton has met with his lawyers to plan a lawsuit against King.

Meanwhile, the members of this majestic club stood outside the palatial club house, sipped their gin and tonics and watched. Mansell, or so they understood, was there, courtesy of a little persuasion from a friend, Greg Norman, and an invitation from the Australian Golf Union.

In fact Mansell has a handicap of 1.9, of which he is justifiably proud, at the Rony Club, Isle of Man, where he is a member.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

## Palmer to retire

Charles Palmer, CBE, is to retire, aged 70, in May after 25 years as Leicestershire Cricket Club chairman after joining the club as a player and secretary in 1950.

Palmer, still on two TCCB committees, said: "My biggest pleasure has been to see Leicestershire progress to a power in the game." His administration ends with David Gover being re-appointed captain.

## Johnson hope

Rome (Reuters) — Ben Johnson, despite Canada hoping to extend his ban from two to four years, expects to return to Barcelona in 1992. "I hope so," Johnson said. "I'll make 1992 something people will never forget."

## Title defender

Tony Wilson, the West Ham-based light-heavyweight, is to defend his British title against Tom Collins, the former champion from Leeds, at Bethnal Green's York Hall on December 14.

## High prospect

Jonathan Palmer, the Hampshire grand prix racing driver, hopes Tyrrell will renew his formula one contract

## Taking over

The Barbarians broke tradition yesterday by naming Phil Matthews as captain for tomorrow's match with the Australians at Cardiff Arms Park, an early indication the Irishman is favoured to lead the British Lions tour to Australia next summer.

## League break

Wigan was designated a tourist attraction, with packages for rugby league weekend breaks to Central Park starting at £89, yesterday.

## Spanish spin

Steve Jones, Britain's former holder of the world marathon best time, has entered the Call Jams 12km road race in Madrid on Sunday

## PGA seek clampdown on cup ticket sales

By John Hennessy

The Johnnie Walker Ryder Cup committee, together with the Keith Prowse agency, are bringing the law to bear in a determined effort to keep out the ticket touts when the match against the United States is held at the Belfry next September. It may have repercussions on the whole field of sport.

They will limit attendance to 27,000, with 20,000 of the tickets going to the public and the rest to corporate sponsors. The tickets will be offered on the condition that "they shall not be resold or transferred" and "it may be an offence to make multiple applications".

John Lindsey, the Executive Director of the PGA at The Belfry, said: "It will be an offence, punishable by law, to put in multiple applications."

The PGA and Keith Prowse are in a legal battle with Ryder Cup Hospitality Limited, who are offering a package to would-be customers including tickets. Mr Burns argues that Ryder Cup Hospitality, who appear in court on Tuesday to contest an injunction, are in breach of either the condition relating to multiple applications or the one relating to non-transferability of tickets.

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